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OPINION METER
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INSIDE

BUSINESS

With the government heading toward a year-end "fiscal cliff," House Republicans approved a full plate of Bush-era tax cuts Wednesday that they said could help shore up a still-frail national economy.

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WORLD

Syrian President Bashar Assad urged his military Wednesday to boost its fight against rebels, but his written call to arms only deepened a mystery over his whereabouts two weeks after a bomb penetrated his inner circle.

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LIFE & STYLE

More than three years after Michael Jackson's death, his youngest brother continues to raise questions about the validity of the pop superstar's will.

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WITH 13 MONTHS LEFT BEFORE FEDS RECLAIM UNUSED FUNDS

CNMI yet to complete 32 ARRA projects worth $62M

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

» Of $119M total grants, $24M yet to be drawn down

If the CNMI fails to complete all ARRA-funded projects totaling $119 million, it could end up losing portions of the $24 million it has yet to draw down barely 13 months before the federal government starts reclaiming unused funds.

Latest data from federal tracking agency recovery.gov also shows that as of June 30 and as of the July 30 update, the CNMI has yet to either start or complete 32 of 57 identified ARRA-funded projects.

These 32 projects involved $62 million, of which some $24 million has yet to be drawn down.

The CNMI has completed only 25 or 44 percent of ARRA-funded projects. These completed proj-

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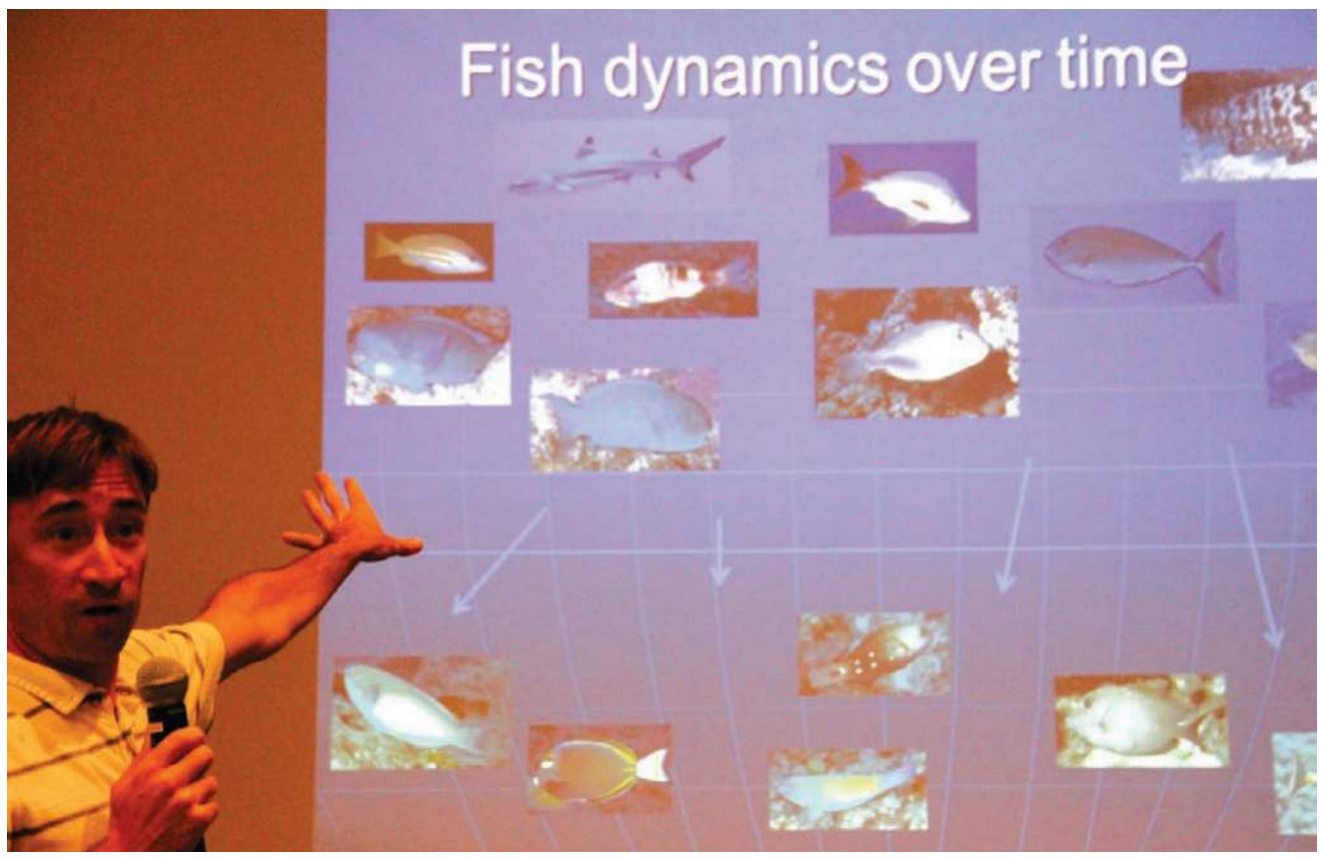

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Dr. Peter Houk, chief biologist for the Pacific Marine Resources Institute, speaks on the status of the CNMI's coral reef resources during the Saipan Chamber of Commerce's general membership meeting at Fiesta Resort & Spa in Garapan Wednesday. The Chamber has also resumed its "Cash for Trash" program that enables community and student groups to clean up designated sites in exchange for a flat $200 fee.

Buckingham: No apologies

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Today is Attorney General Edward T. Buckingham's last work day as the CNMI's chief legal counsel and looking back to the three years he held the post, he said he has no apologies for his decisions to expect staff at the Office of the Attorney General to perform their job.

For some who didn't live up to his expectations, that may have meant termination from the office.

Buckingham

At the same time, Buckingham said he has never seen any indication of criminal conduct on the part of Gov. Benigno R. Fitial.

"Here's where I draw the line. If we see any indication of criminal behavior, uh-oh, that's not okay… I have not seen, ever, an indication of criminal conduct, period, on the part of the governor," he said.

The governor, along with the attorney general, has been accused more than once of violating laws and rules relating to sole-source contracts and ethics, among other things.

During Buckingham's tenure as AG, several assistant attorneys general left the office.

"I expect our lawyers to work in this office and I don't expect them to get rich. I expect them to serve the Commonwealth. One of the reasons you saw me push so hard on this issue of attorneys' fees for the Retirement Fund—I think it's wrong for attorneys to come in here and bill thousands and thousands of hours and get nearly $750,000 bucks for

See BUCKINGHAM on Page 4

CUC approves LEAC rate increase effective today

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. approved a new tariff for levelized energy adjustment clause, or LEAC, as a result of the recent rise in fuel prices.

From the existing LEAC rate of $0.26373 per kilowatt-hour, the new rate mandates a $0.28168 per kWh effective today, Aug. 3.

The new tariff is comprised of the following components: LEAC fuel and lube oil, $0.26575; volatility component, $0.01196; regulatory and technical support element, $0.00123; and allowance for doubtful accounts, $0.01081.

LEAC is part of the customer's bill that reflects the cost of fuel. It is supposed to go up or down to reflect the cost of buying fuel to run the power plants. The other element of the bill is the electric base rate.

At present, the electric base rate is $0.0220 per kilowatt-hour. With the adjusted LEAC rate of $0.28168, the new power rate for average residential customers is $0.30368 per kWh effective today. Average residential customers are those who are using up to 500 kWh monthly.

CUC acting executive director Alan Fletcher told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that the 6.8-percent increase reflects the actual fuel hike experienced by the agency in July and which it directly passes on to its customers.

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Tropical disturbance forms north of CNMI. PAGE 2
Fitial names another Ogumoro as acting DPS commissioner. PAGE 3

Local

Tropical disturbance forms north of CNMI

- Fitial asks public to exercise caution along exposed reefs, beaches
- EMO urges boats to avoid inter-island travel

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The Joint Typhoon Warning Center has issued a tropical cyclone formation alert as a tropical disturbance was formed yesterday north of the CNMI.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial advised the public especially beachgoers, fishermen, tourists, swimmers, divers and surfers to exercise caution along exposed reefs and beaches.

The Emergency Management Office in its special weather statement issued at 3:45pm said residents should avoid venturing near the shore as monsoon swell will create hazardous surf along all shores.

EMO asked boats especially smaller ones to avoid inter-island travel.

The tropical disturbance brought persistent rains yesterday in the CNMI.

According to the National Weather Service in Guam, as of 1pm yesterday a low-level circulation was centered 550 miles north of Saipan and 140 miles southeast of Iwo To Island.

NWS said the tropical cyclone formation alert means that the formation of a tropical depression is likely within 12 to 24 hours.

NWS said the disturbance is expected to move west and bring moderate monsoon conditions to islands in the far northern CNMI during the next several days.

NWS said conditions would gradually deteriorate yesterday, Thursday, as numerous heavy showers and scattered thunderstorms move over the northern islands.

"Sustained winds of 20 to 30 miles per hour will persist the next several days with gusts reaching 35 mph in heavier showers," NWS said.

Investor files new lawsuit vs atty. Quichocho, landowner Atalig

»Plaintiff says lawyer, landowner deceived him by promising to pay $228,000 in settlement but paid only $16,800

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

An investor filed yesterday a new lawsuit against attorney Ramon K. Quichocho and landowner Joaquin Q. Atalig for allegedly deceiving him in settling his previous lawsuit by promising to pay him $228,000 within a 160-day period.

According to plaintiff Sin Ho Nam, to date Quichocho and Atalig have paid only $16,800 against their contractual obligation and the express term of the settlement agreement.

Nam, through counsels Colin M. Thompson and S. Joshua Berger, is now suing in federal court Quichocho and Atalig for breach of contract and fraudulent misstatement.

Nam alleged that under the terms of their settlement agreement executed on Sept. 12, 2011, defendants should have paid the entire settlement amount of $228,000 by April 2, 2012.

Nam asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI to hold the defendants jointly liable to pay him in damages over $150,000. He also demanded interest, court costs, and attorney's fees.

As of press time, Quichocho had yet to reply *Saipan Tribune*'s request for comment.

According to Thompson and Berger, on Nov. 1, 2011, the defendants delivered a check for $11,400 to Thompson's law office.

Thompson and Berger said the defendants breached the contract because the payment was deficient in that it was less than the contractually required amount then due of $22,800.

Thompson and Berger said one week later, defendants delivered a second check in the amount of $5,400 to Thompson's law office.

The two lawyers said this was the last payment that the defendants made to Nam.

Thompson and Berger said that, at a settlement conference before Judge Alex R. Munson, Quichocho and Atalig made false statements through their attorney that they intended to pay Nam $228,000 within 160 days.

Nam said he would not have settled the suit or recorded a release and cancellation of ground lease in the absence of such representations.

Nam previously sued Quichocho and Atalig for breaching a land lease agreement when they terminated a 55-year lease less than two years later despite having already paid $218,000.

U.S. District Court for the NMI then visiting judge Mark W. Bennett found Quichocho and Atalig liable to Nam for breach of contract.

Bennett in his order stated that Nam's remedies or question of damages and the entirety of his claim for breach of fiduciary duty against Quichocho will proceed to trial.

On Sept. 12, 2011, attorneys Thompson and Michael Dotts, counsel for Nam and Quichocho respectively, moved to dismiss all claims and counterclaims after they reached a settlement.

The terms of the settlement were then not publicly disclosed.

On Oct. 18, 2011, U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona Manglona dismissed the lawsuit following the parties' agreement.

On Nov. 15, 2011, Nam requested the court to enforce their settlement agreement.

On Dec. 27, 2011, Manglona issued an order denying for lack of jurisdiction Nam's motion to enforce the settlement agreement.

Manglona said a court has jurisdiction to enforce a settlement agreement only if it expressly retained such jurisdiction or otherwise embodied the settlement contract in the dismissal order.

Nam moved the court to amend the dismissal order. Thompson said the amendment is needed so that the court can enforce the settlement agreement he entered with Quichocho and Atalig.

But in February 2012, Manglona denied Nam's motion to amend the dismissal order. She ruled that the record does not indicate an intention for the court to retain jurisdiction after dismissal.

Fitial names another Ogumoro as acting DPS commissioner

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

As anticipated, Gov. Benigno R. Fitial named yesterday a new acting commissioner for the Department of Public Safety—Capt. Aniceto T. Ogumoro, DPS director of Police. The appointment takes effect immediately.

"Please extend your full cooperation to Captain Ogumoro, as he assumes these additional duties," Fitial said in a one-page memo to all department and activity heads.

The new appointee replaced his brother, DPS deputy commissioner Ambrosio Ogumoro, who had been acting commissioner for both DPS and the Department of Corrections since March.

That's when the governor placed then DPS commissioner Ray Mafnas on administrative leave. Fitial reinstated Mafnas as DOC commissioner but not as DPS commissioner.

There is no telling when the governor will appoint a permanent DPS commissioner that would need the advice and consent of the Senate.

Sen. Frank Cruz (R-Tinian), chair of the Senate Committee on Executive Appointments and Governmental Investigations, said once the panel receives any governor's Cabinet appointment, it will start reviewing that appointment.

Capt. Aniceto Ogumoro's designation came a day after the governor designated new acting secretaries for the Departments of Public Lands and Public Works.

Ramon S. Salas, director of DPL's Land Claims, is now acting DPL secretary, while Antonio Camacho, director of DPW's Technical Services Division, is now acting DPW secretary.

The new appointments came a week after then acting governor Eloy S. Inos said the 90-day appointments for the three posts may have already lapsed weeks ago, and their decisions may no longer be legal and binding.

Marine sports operators' request to modify $62,034 bond placed under advisement

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho yesterday placed under advisement the request of marine sports operators to modify the court's $62,034 bond requirement in order for them to regain Managaha access.

After listening to the arguments by the parties in the case, Camacho said he will issue a written ruling as soon as possible.

Attorneys F. Mathew Smith and Mark Scoggins argued on behalf of the five marine sports operators that are suing the Department of Public Lands.

Attorney Glenn Jewell appeared as counsel for Tasi Tours, while assistant attorney general Mike Wilt represented DPL.

Smith asserted that the court should either remove the bond or to only require a nominal bond.

Smith pointed out that nowhere in Camacho's order in issuing the preliminary injunction is Tasi Tours enjoined or restrained from performing a single act.

"Tasi Tours is an intervenor. Tasi Tours is not enjoined by virtue of the injunction," said Smith, adding that the court's order only enjoined DPL.

Smith reiterated the plaintiffs' position that the court cannot consider the harm to a non-enjoined party—such as the intervenor in the case Tasi Tours.

He said a bond is proper only upon showing that DPL would suffer some harm.

Smith said no testimony nor any evidence presented during the hearing on the preliminary injunction that showed DPL would suffer harm or incur damages.

He said Tasi Tours presented no evidence that they have incurred damages in the past.

Asked by Camacho how much he believes the nominal bond in this case, Smith replied "$1,000…or make it $100."

Smith said the damages that Tasi Tours claimed were all speculative figures.

In Tasi Tours' opposition, Jewell said the court should stand by its ruling—required the bond as it is the law of the case.

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DPL eyes distribution of 178 Tinian homestead lots in Oct.

The Department of Public Lands is eyeing the distribution of 178 homestead lots on Tinian as early as October this year.

Newly designated acting DPL Secretary Ramon "Ray" S. Salas, in a phone interview yesterday, said based on latest information from the department's Homestead Division, these 178 lots have not been found to be contaminated and could therefore be issued to residents if not in October then at least before the end of the year.

"The company testing the lots is expected to complete its work before October so if everything's cleared by then, we could see the distribution in October," Salas told *Saipan Tribune*.

Senate Vice President Jude Hofschneider (R-Tinian), chair of the Tinian Legislative Delegation, inquired with DPL as to the homestead lots that were raffled off in 2009.

Hofschneider said none of the lots has so far been issued because portions of the public land were believed to be contaminated. DPL has hired a contractor to test these areas to confirm the extent of the contamination, reportedly including various types of hazardous chemicals besides petroleum.

DPL's Salas said it is welcome news that 178 homestead lots are ready for distribution because they're not contaminated.

The area was de-listed from being a formerly used defense site in 1986 but months ago, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency included it again on the list due to the findings of contamination. ***(Haidee V. Eugenio)***

BUCKINGHAM

From Page 1

the kind of work that they didn't do. You know, if you re going to serve the Commonwealth, I expect you to serve the Commonwealth well. And I have no apologies for what I have done in terms of expecting people to perform and nope, I won't talk about specific cases," he said.

He will be going back to the U.S. mainland to be able to spend more time with his wife of 37 years, Pam, along with their only son and his family.

Buckingham remembers too well that some three years ago before he became the AG, the office was "getting sanctioned all the time for not appearing in court" and lost a $233-million Retirement Fund case because the OAG "didn't file an answer."

He said there were "tremendous problems" in the office in terms of performance, and he helped fix these problems.

Prior to becoming AG, he spent three years each with the OAG's Civil and Criminal divisions.

Here are some other excerpts from the interview with Buckingham:

MEDIA: For the last three years, have you had ill feeling toward people who have accused you of wrongdoing while in office? (At this point, Buckingham's mobile phone rang, and it was the "governor" on the other line).

BUCKINGHAM: Do I have ill feelings? Look, this is a high-profile job and I've been around long enough… But when I took this job, I took an oath to do it the best I could. And that means that I would make decision and I believe have made decisions that I consider appropriate and proper. Do I expect everyone to agree with every decision?

Absolutely not. I think I've been very open.

Let's take the first one you mentioned, the election.

***[Editor's note:** Fitial invited Buckingham and his wife to dinner at his house weeks before the 2010 elections. The governor later on also asked Buckingham to "bring your office." Days later, the governor decided to include Joseph Camacho, then the governor's candidate for CNMI delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives but he lost the race to incumbent Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan (Ind-MP). Fitial later on appointed Camacho to the Superior Court.]*

That's the governor's house. Now I could have canceled the dinner, okay? And someone said I should have done that. Fair enough, I respect that opinion. I made the decision out of respect to the governor, not to do that.

I also was very clear that I never endorse anybody. I paid for everything personally and so people can have their opinions and I respect that. I also immediately afterward said, 'hey I will recuse myself from the election because I said there are some perceptions out there.' So I think I approached that one openly, fairly, honestly.

MEDIA: What about the government's award of a sole-source, almost $400,000 ARRA management contract to former Commerce secretary Mike Ada, and the Office of the Public Auditor's investigation later on?

BUCKINGHAM: Mike Ada was quitting and he wanted to do a new contract with the government. That put the governor into an awkward situation, right? What did the governor do? The governor writes to the Office of the Public Auditor and says 'Mike Ada is asking me to do a contract. Public auditor, you tell me if there's something wrong with this?' Public auditor is silent. Not quite silent. In fact, when the public auditor responded, the public auditor said, 'governor, you make a strong case for sole-source justification.' And the auditor said we don't want to comment on the specifics of the contract, like how much are you going to pay him, the terms of the contract. Well the governor wasn't asking him about that. I looked at some stuff like that, that's legal [matter].

The governor was asking the auditor, ethically. 'Do you see an ethical problem?' And you read the auditor's response and it is silent on the ethics. I looked at that request to the auditor. I looked at the auditor's response. Now I did see ethical issues in it. But frankly, I decided as I've said publicly, the interest of the Commonwealth to make sure we have these grants monitored was such that I felt, legally, it was proper. So I signed off on it, legally.

If they wanted to raise ethical issues, the time to have raised that was when the governor asked them. And the governor had said to the auditor, 'this is like the arsonist who sets the fire, and then goes, gee we have to look at who sets the fire.' They did. Because if the auditor's office had said, 'we see ethical problems,' do you think I would have signed that contract?

I did sign the contract, I approved it. One of the major reasons I approved it was the auditor's office did not raise ethical issues… So again, for me, to have the auditor's office come back the way they did, to me, I stick with what the governor said, that's the arsonist asking for who set the fire. They could have stopped it. Any other controversies you want to ask me about?

MEDIA: What was the OAG's lawsuit against the public auditor's wife and the OAG's concerns about OPA's hiring of legal counsels?

BUCKINGHAM: Sure. Now you have to go way back in history, three years ago. When I became AG, one of the things that I saw was the Office of the Public Auditor had requested twice of the Legislature, of the authority to conduct criminal prosecutions. The authority to conduct criminal prosecutions is the authority of the Office of the Attorney General. Public auditor said we wanted to have the opportunity to investigate and to prosecute. Now, has anybody seen *Law & Order*? In the beginning of it, they say, there are two different actors. The police investigate crimes, and the prosecutors prosecute, right? That's a good statement. The cops investigate, we prosecute. Now what the auditor was proposing is, we got to be a cop role, we want to investigate, and we want to be the prosecutors, too….Now the AG's Office does have the constitutional responsibility and statutory responsibility to prosecute. The Office of the Public Auditor did not and does not.

When I became the AG, I looked at this and what had happened was people who were hired and fired by the auditor were designated special assistant attorneys general. They didn't work for me. They were hired and fired by the auditor. But they were getting criminal cases and they were prosecuting. Now I looked at that and said, that means the auditor is prosecuting these cases. No. The Office of the Attorney General should prosecute the cases. So what I said to the auditor, in writing, was I am withdrawing this designation.

I asked to meet with him afterward and he basically said 'you know I'm upset about this and so I don't want to meet with you' and I said 'okay'…. Stuff always has a beginning point, he didn't like that. Now I stand behind that decision.

But I also looked at the AG's Office. We had a unit with nearly 15 people called AGIU [Attorney General's Investigation Unit]. Remember that? I disbanded that. Why did I disband it? I applied the same rules to me which was, we prosecute, we're not the cops. Our investigative unit was very much acting like cops. Now to me, we shouldn't be doing the cops job.

MEDIA: The elected AG initiative is now with the Commonwealth Election Commission, and it would be on the Nov 6 ballot. What's your view on this?

BUCKINGHAM: I'm not running.

MEDIA: Do you think the CNMI is ready for an elected AG?

BUCKINGHAM: Personally I'm not in favor of an elected AG. But that's just my personal view. Part of the reason is, people can say, you know the AG should be independent. Okay. What does that mean? If it means, 'well the governor can do his thing, but you know I'm independent of the governor, I can do whatever I want.' So now what? You got two governors in the Commonwealth. In my mind you got one governor, not two governors.

Now Guam went through a pretty rough period of time with an elected AG… The governor and the AG were constantly conflicting. I don't have conflict with the governor. You know I recognize and respect the governor is the head of the Commonwealth, the job of the attorney general is to advise the governor, advise the agencies, represent the Commonwealth the best that we can.

MEDIA: Have the governor and you have different views on different subjects?

BUCKINGHAM: The governor and I have, over three years, exchanged views and have vigorous discussions. And I'm not going to get to any of the areas where we disagree. What I can tell you without exception, is here's where I draw the line. I will do everything I can to have our office support the Commonwealth, support the Executive Branch, and support the governor. Here's where I draw the line. If we see any indication of criminal behavior, uh-oh, that's not okay.

I have not seen, ever, an indication of criminal conduct, period, on the part of the governor. Now when we look at issues of course there's going to be different perspectives. And I will give him my advice. But that is advice in terms of deciding, the person who decides on the policy of the Executive Branch is not the AG. The person who decides the policy for the Executive Branch is the governor. I respect that.

MEDIA: How would you like to be remembered as attorney general of the Commonwealth?

BUCKINGHAM: Somebody who worked really hard, improved the performance of the office, and expected everybody who works in this office to work hard and contribute. And somebody who never claimed to be perfect and I never have.

MEDIA: After this, would you still be an attorney? Or are you just going to have a vacation as an attorney?

BUCKINGHAM: You mean what am I going to do when I grow up?

MEDIA: Yes.

BUCKINGHAM: I retired once already. I retired after my wife and I had careers in Colorado… I'm wired to work. That's what I do. I like working. I kind of need to recharge my batteries. I want to have some time with my wife. If you're saying, do I intend to hang out, play golf? Nah. But exactly what I'll do, I don't know. Let's wait and see.

CUC

From Page 1

He described the LEAC increase as still nominal and pointed out that it is only one portion of the customer's billing. Fletcher said CUC in the past couple of months reduced by 20 percent the LEAC rate when fuel prices went down in the world market. He was alluding to the LEAC reduction implemented in April and June this year.

The new tariff will take effect until changed by the utilities firm. Fletcher said CUC is monitoring the prices in a monthly basis which will dictate any adjustment.

ARRA

From Page 1

ects involved close to $57 million.

Since 2009, the CNMI has been awarded $119 million in ARRA grants and no new grant awards are expected until the program winds down.

Three projects have not even started, involving $4.5 million.

Ten projects involving $17 million are still less than 50 percent completed. Some $14.8 million of this amount has yet to be drawn down.

Nineteen other projects involving $40.5 million are more than 50 percent completed. Of this amount, $9.3 million has yet to be drawn down.

Rep. Edmund Villagomez (Cov-Saipan), chairman of the House Committee on Commerce and Tourism, said ARRA has been a "tremendous" contributor to the economy, considering that total grants amounted to over $119 million, more than the CNMI government's current budget of $102 million or even next fiscal year's proposed budget of $114 million.

"ARRA has helped the CNMI a lot, not only with the infrastructure but also with jobs, especially at public schools. A lot of teachers were retained or hired because of ARRA," he said.

ARRA-funded projects included road repair and construction, renovation of existing classrooms and building of new ones, installation of energy-efficient air conditioners and lighting systems, and improvements in water and power services, among other things.

Villagomez said while other projects are not moving at a speedy rate, there are a lot of contributing factors for the current pace, including contractor issues and the "Buy America" policy in which the CNMI has had difficulty complying.

"I'm hoping the CNMI will be able to complete and use all the funds awarded to it," he added.

The Obama administration's ARRA program was meant to jumpstart the economy and create and save jobs.

Of the $119 million awarded to the CNMI, some $48 million was for education, almost $39 million for energy/environment projects, and over $15 million for transportation projects. The rest were divided among projects or programs related to infrastructure, public safety, housing, family, health, and job training.

MARINE

From Page 3

Jewell said the reason why they opposed to have a chambers conference because the issue presented is a motion for reconsideration.

Jewell cited previous court rulings to back up their argument that a bond should be imposed in issuing the injunction.

Jewell said Tasi Tours is now a party in this case and not only an intervenor.

Assistant attorney general Wilt also agreed with Jewell that Tasi Tours is a party in this case.

Wilt said the injunction has a negative economic impact on Tasi Tours and on DPL.

He also stated that this case is motivated by personal commercial interest and not for public interest.

In his July 19, 2012 order, Camacho granted the marine sports operators' request to maintain the status quo on Managaha access until their lawsuit against the DPL is decided on its merits.

Camacho, however, ordered the marine sports operators—Island Marine Sports Inc., Aquatic Marine Co. Inc. doing business as Amigo Aquatic Sports, Automarine Inc., Seahorse Inc., and BSEA Inc.—to post the $62,034 bond.

Camacho said the preliminary injunction shall take effect once the full bond is remitted to the court. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Fitial vetoes bill turning CHC board from 'advisory' to 'governing'

Suspended lawyer's proposed 3rd party custodians fail to appear at hearing

Yesterday's scheduled hearing on a motion to modify the bail imposed on suspended lawyer Antonio M. Atalig was canceled after his two proposed third party custodians failed to appear in court.

Atalig

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho, however, granted Atalig's counsel chief public defender Adam Hardwicke's request to continue the hearing today, Friday, at 9am.

Hardwicke informed Camacho that for unknown reason Atalig's two proposed third party custodians did not arrive.

Atalig told *Saipan Tribune* that his proposed third party custodians are his sister-in-law Nelida Atalig and suspended lawyer Reynaldo Yana.

Wearing an orange inmate jumpsuit, the 55-year-old Atalig waited in the courtroom's gallery for about an hour as his case was called only after a hearing in a civil matter was completed.

After Judge Camacho announced the continuation of the bail modification hearing for today, Friday, a corrections officer escorted Atalig back to the Department of Corrections.

Atalig was brought to court on Tuesday after he was arrested on Sunday for allegedly assaulting his two minor children and threatening to kill them and their mother.

Judge imposed a $25,000 cash bail for Atalig's temporary release on charges of assault with a dangerous weapon, assault and battery, child abuse, and disturbing the peace.

Preliminary hearing will be on Aug. 6 at 9am. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial vetoed yesterday a bill changing the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.'s board of directors from an "advisory" to a "governing" one but the bill's author, Sen. Ralph Torres (R-Saipan), said he will urge Senate and House members to override the governor's veto.

Fitial

Fitial said Senate Bill 17-80, among other things, deprives the governor of his power to appoint CHC board members.

Torres said he introduced the bill on June 30 last year, four months before the then Department of Public Health was to become a corporation.

"It would have been before any board member could be nominated. But the House sat on it for months and passed it only in early May this year. But I would urge the members to override the governor's veto," Torres, chairman of the Senate Committee on Health, told *Saipan Tribune*.

» Bill's author to drum up support for Senate, House override

Fitial, in his four-page veto message to Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota) and House Speaker Eli Cabrera (R-Saipan), said the essential provisions of the enabling legislation creating the corporation "remain valid and it seems prudent to allow adequate time for some of the 'growing pains' of CHC to work themselves out."

"By making changes now, we may create new issues and problems. In terms of the bill itself, there are a number of concerns that, taken together, do not permit me to endorse SB 17-80," the governor said.

Fitial has three major concerns about SB 17-80, describing it as "troubling" because it seeks to usurp CHC's power over regulations for inter-island medical referrals.

He said the bill is also "unconstitutional" because it deprives the governor of his power to appoint board members.

The governor said the bill is ambiguous as to the nature of fiduciary duty imposed on the board.

He said the bill, if signed into law, is subject to legal challenge as the interpretation of several provisions would violate the separate of powers doctrine on two fronts. He said SB 17-80 appears to enact regulations as law without giving the governor opportunity to endorse or consider their provisions. He said it also appears to completely change, indeed reverse, the powers and duties of executive appointees without giving the governor the opportunity to make new appointments.

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Wiseman rejects plea deal offered to 58-year-old who allegedly assaulted 2 cops

Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman has rejected as too lenient a proposed plea agreement offered by the Office of the Attorney General to a 58-year-old man accused of assaulting two police officers who tried to secure his safety after he attempted to commit suicide.

In rejecting the plea agreement entered by defendant Domingo Importado on Wednesday, Wiseman believed that a 25-day time served sentence sends a wrong message to the community.

Last March, the Office of the Attorney General charged Importado with two counts of assault and battery, and one count of resisting arrest.

The defendant and counsel assistant public defender Matthew H. Meyer signed a plea agreement with assistant attorney general Nicole D. Driscoll.

The defendant agreed to plead guilty to resisting arrest. In exchange the OAG will dismiss the remaining charges.

The plea deal will recommend a sentence of six months in prison, all suspended except for 25 days, with credit for 25 days he already served in jail.

Among other conditions is that Importado will pay a $200 fine, $25 in court costs, and a $60 probation fee. Other conditions include requiring him to perform 50 hours of community work service, write letters of apology to the two police officers, and submit to an evaluation for counseling on alcohol abuse and anger management.

According to the plea agreement, on Feb. 18, 2012 on Saipan, the defendant punched and kicked Police Officers Christopher Santos and John Wabol in an effort to resist arrest.

According to the OAG, Importado does not have a criminal history, but that the violent sequence of event involved in this case may indicate an unstable mental condition.

The OAG said Importado is accused of attacking his own vehicle with a machete, then taking the machete to the street and challenging everyone at a party to a fight.

The defendant was found apparently trying to hang himself and then resisted assistance from Police Officers Santos and Wabol who tried to secure his safety and take him into custody. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

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CUC cuts Saipan mayor's water connection

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. cut the water connection at the residence of Saipan Mayor Donald Flores due to nonpayment of his water bill and possible tampering of water meter which the mayor denied yesterday.

Flores admitted to *Saipan Tribune* that water connection in his residence has been cut for a month now because of unresolved disputes that he filed with the utilities agency.

But he categorically denied the allegations that he tampered his meter to save on his water bill. The alleged tampering was supposedly discovered by the utilities firm.

From the average monthly water charge of over $100, Flores disclosed that CUC has been sending him billings that are way beyond the families' consumption which is $700 to $800 a month. This, he said, translates to about 6,000 gallons of the families' monthly water consumption.

He disclosed that to date, CUC wants to collect from him over $6,000 in accumulated water charges—an amount he described as extremely high for one family's consumption. The $6,000 water billing covers several months of unpaid accounts.

According to the mayor, the "high" water consumption in his residence is possibly due to undetected leaks which CUC has to check. He said the dispute he filed a few weeks ago was not the first received by CUC.

"I've been complaining about this overcharging in my water billing for about a year now, but nothing has been resolved to date. Right now, I am still waiting from CUC their action on my latest dispute-letter," he told *Saipan Tribune*, adding that he is scheduled to meet with CUC officials or staff today, Aug. 3, to follow up on the matter.

Absence water from CUC, Flores said they have been buying water from commercial vendors and taking advantage of rainwater. He said it is good thing that the family has a reservoir/tank.

CUC acting executive director Alan Fletcher yesterday refused to comment on the issue, but cited that the agency is willing to sit down with the mayor to resolve the "problem."

Fletcher also declined to comment about the "investigation" or "tampering" issue about the mayor's water consumption. For the acting executive director, it is best that the sensitive matter be discussed with the mayor privately to come up with a workable solution.

He said CUC is not open to "debate" the matter in the media because it has responsibility to fulfill to its customers and the public. He said he is looking forward to "sit down" with Flores to hear the mayor's concern.

Just recently, the Saipan Mayor's Office announced its plan to stop the free delivery of water to nonresident households on the island to save the municipality in operational cost and to help CUC as well. For those nonresidents who want to continue to avail of water delivery, a fee will be assessed by the municipality.

NMC STUDENT ORIENTATION CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Northern Marianas College president Sharon Y. Hart welcomes students to the student orientation recently held in Room D-1 of the College's campus as NMC gears up for its Fall 2012 semester. Registration for classes for the Fall 2012 semester starts on August 13, 2012.

Mount Carmel School posts gains in battery test

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Students of Mount Carmel School recorded significant gains in the Stanford Achievement Test 10th Edition, or SAT-10, last school year 2011-2012, based on the results released yesterday.

SAT 10 is a norm reference test that measures the students' learning in all areas including the core content subjects of English, math, science, social studies, and reading. For the last school year, national percentile target is 50 percentile in complete battery test.

For the elementary level, tests are conducted in third, fifth, and sixth grades while eight graders are tested for middle school. For high school, SAT-10 is conducted in the 9th and 11th grades.

The result of the national standardized test at MCS showed improvement in all subjects across all grade levels and results showed that the average performance of all students was in the 60th percentile.

The national percentile ranks indicate the relative standing of a student in comparison with other students in the same grade in the norm reference group who took the test at a comparable time.

Based on the school's results for last year, students at Mount Carmel School scored, on average, better than 60 percent of the rest of the nation.

Performance on specific subject areas also showed marked improvement from the previous year. The average performance in math increased from the 55th percentile in 2011 to the 66th percentile in 2012, while the average performance in reading increased from the 42nd percentile in 2011 to the 53rd percentile in 2012.

The average in science increased from the 46th percentile in 2011 to the 56th percentile in 2012, while the average in social studies increased from the 46th percentile in 2011 to the 57th percentile in 2012.

School president Galvin Deleon Guerrero yesterday recognized the role of teachers and students in the improved performance.

"We applaud our dedicated teachers and motivated students for these great results. It shows that when we raise our standards and our expectations for student achievement, our kids will stand and deliver," he said.

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Taylor Made - Adidas Golf (DFS Galleria)
World of Wine (DFS Galleria)

Tenorio seeks Saipan BOE seat

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A former dean of the Northern Marianas College is seeking a position at the State Board of Education to continue ongoing improvements in the Public School System—both for its students and personnel.

Janice Tenorio filed her petition for candidacy at the Commonwealth Election Commission yesterday with strong support from her family and supporters.

MONETH G. DEPOSA

Aspiring education board member Janice Tenorio, center, poses with her family and supporters after filing her candidacy for the mid-term elections. Tenorio is seeking a BOE seat for Saipan.

She is vying for one of two available board seats for Saipan in the upcoming mid-term elections set for Nov. 6.

Tenorio is the current administrator/planner of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce. A government retiree, she used to work at NMC as its dean of students services, director of student support, and director of the college admission and records.

At present, she is the president of William S. Reyes Elementary School parents-teachers-student-association and the vice president of the PSS State Parents Advisory Panel.

With her professional and educational background, Tenorio believes that she can bring something to the board that will further enhance the progress of the public schools.

Tenorio has a master's degree in educational leadership which she obtained from San Diego University and received a bachelors degree in applied science from Boise State University.

When asked about her motivation to run for a BOE seat, Tenorio said she wanted to assist in the ongoing improvements at PSS—on the system's priorities and strategic plans, safety and orderly mission for schools, effective and efficiency operation, maintaining highly qualified personnel, and greater collaboration and partnership with private sector and parents.

She promised to bring "experience, responsibility, and leadership"—qualities that a determined leader should possess.

In acknowledging that PSS at present has a very good operations and effective curriculum, Tenorio believes that it needs to be embraced to make it stronger.

For the aspiring board member, preparing students to their future should start at an early age. Based on her experiences that mostly deal with the post-secondary education, Tenorio is convinced that students as young as those in elementary should be exposed to the different types of careers and disciplines that would help them think about their future.

Once elected, she aims to start career introduction to elementary students.

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9:30-11:00 am Student Orientation
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Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Aug. 3, 2000

DLNR asks MRC, boat operators to settle marina dispute

Department of Lands and Natural Resources Secretary Jack Tenorio yesterday said he is still optimistic that commercial boat operators and the Marine Revitalization Corp. will be able to agree on an acceptable passenger departure fee for the use of the Outer Cove Marina. Mr. Tenorio indicated that a public hearing may be held soon so that the boat owners can make their recommendations. Just like MRC, the department wants the controversy that has dragged on for two years now settled as soon as possible. Anthony Pellegrino, president of MRC, has demanded an increase in departure fee to allow him to recoup the $4 million he borrowed from the bank for the marina construction. The DLNR chief said the Mr. Pellegrino should also accept some of the suggestions made by the people so that they can finally come to an agreement.

CUC to seek proposals for desalination project

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation is pushing the long-delayed water desalination project on Saipan amid concerns on the quality of groundwater resources on the island. A request of proposal may be issued soon in search of new contractors to build the project, according to board chair Jesus T. Guerrero. This will be the second time in four years that the government-owned utility corporation will seek proposals on the project which has been on its agenda since 1997. A task force created by the CUC board to specifically handle the project is scheduled to meet this week to draw up a new plan on what directions to take. It is headed by Edward Sablan, who serves as board secretary and represents Saipan to the policy-making body.

Aug. 3, 2001

OPA faults LibDay panel's handling of funds, services

A review on the cash receipts and disbursements of the 1999 Liberation Day Committee conducted by the Office of the Public Auditor revealed the committee's less than sterling performance in the accounting of its funds and procurement of supplies and services. "Our audit showed that LDC conducted its activities without following sound operating and accounting procedures, and was unable to account for all its funds," Public Auditor Michael S. Sablan said in a report. More specifically, OPA said LDC was remiss in accounting for raffle tickets valued at $18,950. It said the problem originated from the committee's weak control procedures for the monitoring of ticket sales. Because of this, OPA said it was unable to account for at least 3,790 ticket booklets out of the original 15,000.

PSS receives $270K for youth centers

Freshly-awarded federal dollars will enable the Public School System to convert its campuses into community learning centers after regular school hours. Through a $270,000 US Americorps grant, PSS can now push through with plans to institute a Family Resource Youth Learning Center within the year. PSS Federal Programs Officer Bill Matson said the funds will allow each public school to have its own youth center where students can spend extra time engaging in after-school activities. Matson, who arrived from Washington DC to attend the annual National Center for Education Statistics meeting last week, disclosed that PSS was able to obtain additional money from Americorps from the original $190,000 grant application to the current $270,000 grant award.

Aug. 3, 2003

CUC advised against MOA with govt

Senator Ramon S. Guerrero has advised the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation not to agree to a debt swap with CNMI government using the utility firm's unremitted amount to the Office of the Public Auditor. Guerrero, in a July 29 letter to CUC executive director Lorraine A. Babauta, said the CUC should reconsider or amend such provision as set forth in the July 11 memorandum of agreement with the CNMI government. "Specifically, I strongly urge CUC not to allow the Commonwealth government to use the funds the government claims that CUC owes to the OPA, approximately $4 million, to reduce the overall debt the government owes to CUC," said Guerrero.

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- Beach Cliff Sardines 99¢
- Century Tuna 89¢ 7 OZ.
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- Hormel Chili with Beans $1.69 15 OZ.
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- Kikkoman Soy Sauce $4.39 1.6 L.
- Vlasic Sliced Dill Pickle $6.49 1 GAL.
- Dinty Moore Beef Stew $1.69 15 OZ.
- Dinty Moore Meatball Stew $1.69 15 OZ.
- Hormel Mary Kitchen Corned Beef Hash $1.99 6.5 OZ.
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- Del Monte Spaghetti Sauce (all kinds) $1.39 26.5oz.
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- Dawn Dishwashing Soap $8.99 90 oz.
- Suave Shampoo & Conditioner 2 for $3.00
- Head & Shoulders Shampoo $7.99 23OZ. 2 in 1 w/ Almond oil $4.99
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EDITORIAL

The candidates' small differences on foreign policy

During the first two stops on his foreign tour, Mitt Romney antagonized Britons, pleased Israelis and then infuriated Palestinians. But it doesn't really matter that much, since none of them will be voting in the American presidential election.

Though the trip didn't go according to script, it's easy to exaggerate the tangible significance of what happened—just as it's easy to magnify the differences between Romney and his opponent. In both cases, there is much less than meets the eye.

The GOP nominee irritated his British hosts when he said various pre-Olympic problems were "disconcerting," a comment that drew a rebuke from Prime Minister David Cameron. Over the weekend, as it happened, he got some confirmation: Fans complained when popular events that supposedly were sold out played host to hundreds of empty seats. But no one is likely to give Romney points for being right.

He got a warmer reception in Israel, where he said Iran cannot be allowed to obtain nuclear weapons and gave what might be construed as advance approval of an Israeli strike. "We recognize Israel's right to defend itself," he asserted, "and that it is right for America to stand with you." Romney did say Jerusalem is the capital of Israel but stopped short of promising to move the U.S. Embassy from Tel Aviv.

On all sorts of foreign policy issues, of course, Romney depicts himself as stronger and more resolute. It's a familiar Republican theme, going back at least to the Vietnam War, but it's not so easy to deploy against President Barack Obama, who has not shied away from military action.

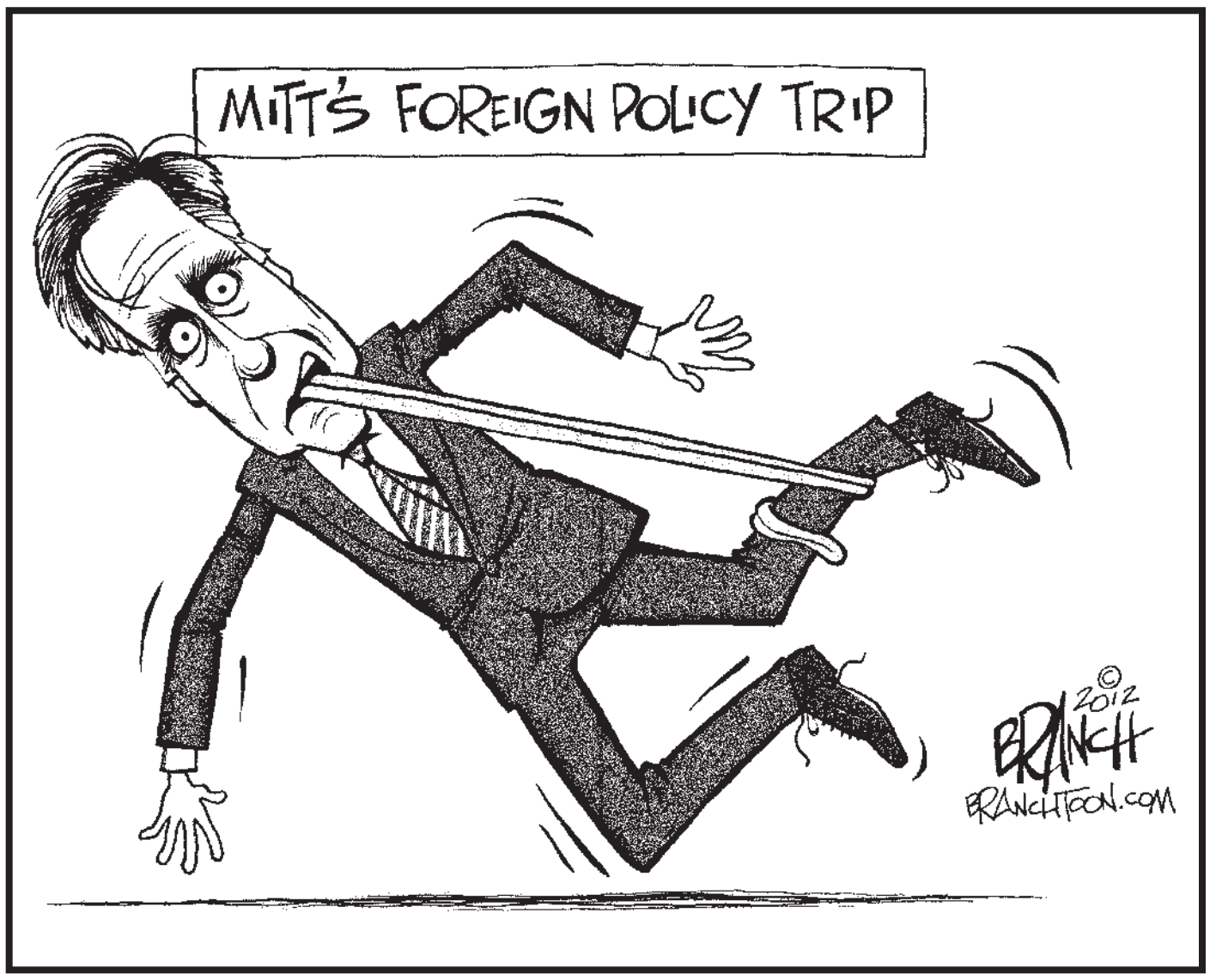
Obama, after all, approved the raid that killed Osama bin Laden. He has greatly expanded the use of drone missiles to hit terrorists in Pakistan, Yemen and Somalia.

He authorized U.S. intervention in Libya's civil war, which ended up toppling Moammar Gadhafi. He has provoked complaints in Beijing by deploying Marines in Australia and vowing to expand our naval presence in the western Pacific.

He has pointedly kept open the option of an air strike against Iran—and the U.S. reportedly is already waging cyberwar on the ayatollahs' nuclear program. He has said flatly that "it is unacceptable for Iran to have a nuclear weapon." Not much wiggle room there.

Among some liberals, the criticism is that Obama

See CANDIDATES on Next Page



Gung ho at Gen He

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime R. Vergara (jrvergarajr2031@aol.com) is a former PSS teacher and is currently writing from the campus of Shenyang Aerospace University in China.

Tramping around Hulunbeier in Inner Mongolia has afforded us a few reflections on the state of the planet's ecology in the geographical reality of this part of the world. The wide expanse of the grassland, the semi-pristine condition of the wetlands, and the protected reforested slopes of the Great Khingan Range occasion a celebrative affirmation of Gaia's gifts, on the one hand, and despair over our reckless disregard for sustainability in the wake of rapid industrialization, on the other.

From relatively clean Manzhouli, with its center solidly reflecting its eastern European antecedents, its construction spread is restrained by the green mesh to contain the dust, and is hardly noticeable as expansion moves into the outskirts of the city while the center remains a touristy old Russian atmosphere, with all the shops showing Cyrillic and Chinese signs. The occasional English shows of necessity when brand recognition is needed, e.g., Arrow brand shirt, and the much-duplicated Playboy.

Hailar (the old city of Hulunbeier before the name was extended to the whole prefecture), on the other hand, almost a microcosm of the haste China is pursuing industrial and commercial development. To its credit, it is not averse to English in the signage as Russian, English, and Mongolian (Uyghur script) join the Zhongwen characters. This extends to such places with names like E'erguna and Moerduga.

Outside of Hailar is vast grassland with the idyllic pastoral scenes of the sheep and cattle herds guarded by Mongolians in their famed horses. Modern China, in its need to generate additional power for its industries, has parked numerous aluminum/steel flowers to convert the wind into controllable sparks. While the windmills are numerous, it is hardly sufficient.

Coal-rich northeast (Manchuria) has already saturated Dong Bei air with carbon dioxide, and although tree planting is a 24/7 exercise, the quality of air is almost as bad as Beijing. So it makes sense that economic planners decided to add power plants in strategic areas in the open grassland. Outside of Hailar, I must have counted more than a dozen of those plants, with mounds of black coal in their open yards, busily generating electricity transmitted through new power line towers heading in every direction.

I stood at a tourist yurt yard where crash Mongolia culture is pitifully caricatured (IMHO, in the same way we train Saipan girls to dance the Hula for the tourists) but on one site, we were delighted to stand atop a hill and gaze at a 180 degree view unaltered by any sign of human intrusion. Or, so we thought. The binoculars caught some movement in the middle of our view, which at first, we thought might be wildlife. They turned out to be disposable plastic bags, very thin but commonly used everywhere, caught in a green mesh fence.

I was reminded of an early '80s swim in Wotje of the Marshall Islands where our snorkel delighted on the pristine condition of the lagoon until a piece of baby Pampers came floating into our view.

We did a circular route from Gen He and return, by train and bus. Members of an aboriginal tribe of reindeer herders commercialized their lives for the tourists. If the yurt is the dwelling of the grasslands, the teepee comes handy in the forest. Now I know where the teepees of Native Americans came from. The southern Chinese tourists were not comfortable with the antlered deer roaming around the forest trails! Mongolians consider the wolf and the deer as their patron spirit animals. The wolf has since been domesticated while the dear deer joins the list of protected about-to-be extinct species.

E'erguna is another city rapidly building apartment dwellings to replace the one-story ones of the collectives. Nearby is a fabulous wetland. The sore sight of a few of the city's power plants, however, mars the scenery.

We tramped around the grassland overlooking the wetland, lucky that a Han taxi driver dropped me off the back of a Mongolian Mosque that led to a newly constructed fancy wetland-viewing tourist area where I joined a throng. I found out later on our exit that it charged $10 per head to enter. What the taxi driver failed to warn me (or, maybe, he did, but I failed to understand) though was not to disturb the grass snakes!

Shi Wei is a recently revived Mongolian area by the river that sits across Russia. Near it are villagers of blue-green-yellow eyed Caucasians who speak Chinese and have long resided in the area, inter-marrying to the Mongols and the Hans. They are treated better than our CNMI-born residents of alien workers. The new tourist dwellings resemble Siberian log houses!

BTW, Mongol is really not a racial term. It is a term to refer to Pax Mongolica, the largest contagious empire united under Genghis Khan in the 13th and 14th century, remarkable in its religious tolerance and promotion of inter-tribal trade and cultural exchange among the various Turkic tribes and ethnic residents in what would later be identified as the Empire of the Mongols. Genghis Khan ruled China as the Yuan dynasty.

These grasslands and wetlands are frontiers about to disappear. Ay Yah!

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Open letter to CNMI Legislative members

DOWNSIZING THE LEGISLATURE

Having read the article in the *Saipan Tribune* of July 31 it prompted me to dig into files that I have been working on for months to propose a reduction in the size of the Legislature.

According to the 2010 census the total number of people residing in the CNMI is now 53,883. This number is made up of the following:

Saipan: 48,220
Tinian; 3,136
Rota: 2,527
TOTAL 53,883

I suggest that we have one House Member for every 5,000 residents living on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. Based on this formula Rota will be entitle to one House of Representatives member; Tinian will have one House of Representatives member; and Saipan and the Northern Islands will have nine House of Representatives members.

Total number of representatives would be 11 members. The term of House members should be four years with a maximum of two terms.

Each Senatorial District should have one senator or a total of three senators. The lieutenant governor shall act as the presiding officer of the Senate. Similarly, the term of a senator should be for four years with a maximum of two terms.

Based on these terms, it will accord the new generation to have a chance to serve and infuse new and modern ideas into the political and economic spectrum of the CNMI.

FINANCIAL CRISIS:

The CNMI is in serious financial crisis. Its financial obligations continue to mount while the resource is barely enough to meet its payroll. We are in a serious "deficit spending" and based on available data the cumulative deficit spending since 1986 to date is about $350 Million. This is a very serious financial dilemma that must be dealt with by each and every one of us. The Retirement Fund is shouldering the bulk of this financial deficiency.

I have heard many discussions about what can we do to turnaround the deteriorating economic situation. Before we can begin talking about how to improve our economy we must first identify and take corrective measures of our internal deficiencies. I conclude that the "bloated" size of our government is really the main cause of the financial dilemma that we are presently experiencing. The choices available to us are not simple but must be undertaken; reduction in the overall size of the government. While I am aware that there have been some measures taken to temporarily cope with the declining resources we need to cut down to a realistic level so we can continue to provide public services and operate within our means.

Reduce the number of days for each session of the Legislature to say, 10 working days per quarter. This means that each fiscal year the both Houses will convene a total of 40 days per fiscal year.

The Legislative Bureau should be amply staffed with attorneys, secretaries, and other professionals to provide support to the members of both Houses. The bureau should operate full time to handle the workload of the Legislature. The director of the Bureau will also be responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Legislature including the fiscal accountability of Legislative budget.

Each House member would receive $200 a day while in session. Senators would each receive $225 a day while in session and is broken down as follows"

House	Per Quarter	Total Annual
11 House members	$22,000	$88,000
3 Senate members	$6,750	$27,000

Recommended number of staff for the Legislative Bureau is:

Director of Bureau	1
Attorney	4
Secretarial work	8
Sergeant at arms	2

Provide funding for both Houses of the Legislature of no more than $1.5 Million each fiscal year. With this level of funding I am confident that our Legislative Branch of our government can operate efficiently. For now however, let's concentrate on the size of our Legislature. Over the past 26 years, the Legislature have been operating with a budget of anywhere from $6 to $9 Million annually.

We must not fear to face the reality that has rotted our economic well-being. We must itemize these deficiencies and work toward resolving them. Once we find solutions, let us apply them to solve our problems. Some of you might not agree with my recommended theory and if you have one that might work better bring it to the table and let us analyze it.

I am presently looking at the Executive Branch also as I feel that there might be ways to operate it with less money and possibly improve its efficiency. I would strongly recommend that each department head be required to cut the cost of operating its department without jeopardizing the efficiency of public services they provide.

Let it be known that I am merely exercising my right as a taxpayer and a citizen of this great Commonwealth.

David M. Sablan, Sr.
Papago

Need for sacrifice

To all elected officials:

It is with deep concern of where our retirement program is heading that it forces me to write again to urge you to listen to the people you're supposed to served. I cannot imagine in my wildest dream that we will be in this mess if only you take the time to get input from the people since no one has a monopoly on good ideas. Now that everyone is faced with this serious economic crisis, we all need to do the right thing and put our minds together to find the solution.

When the government has limited money, we all need to sacrifice and cut expenditures. To be a leader, you must lead. If you can show the public that you are willing to cut your salary and office budget, then the rest of the government sectors will also follow this shared sacrifice. But having an austerity measures for the thousands of employees, while you and your constitutionally protected friends are sitting comfortably without any worry of getting reduced paycheck is really unfair. I know that you know it's not fair, so let's all sacrifice together. If one of the solutions is to save the retirement pension is for retirees to sacrifice and accept a small cut, I'm sure many will agree in order to extend the life of the program. However, for you not showing any leadership to look for additional revenue to save the program, how can retirees believe you? For over 12 years, you and your predecessors had failed to send the required employer's contribution to the retirement fund and perhaps forgetting also to pay the $320 million it owes, since by Oct. 1, the finance department will control all the pension funds based on the executive order.

Basically what this means is a double whammy. The administration will get rid of the present employer's contribution requirement and accelerate the demise of the retirement pension all in one stoke. What a brilliant maneuver of getting out of this messy problem which both the legislature and the administration created in the first place by not paying the required employer's contribution.

When the government owes millions and millions of dollar to vendors and to the retirement program, the first thing you should do when you find some extra money is pay your debts. Now that the 2013 budget is being reviewed and debated, don't you think it's an opportune time for both the Legislature and the administration to sit down and talk seriously about the state of our economy and the real need to prioritize? Keep in mind the stakeholders while you're doing it. Be realistic and reduced everyone's budget based on an intelligent projection of revenue collections.

Let's all share in cutting salaries, pension checks, programs that are not really necessary and of course, employees that are not needed. Your focus should be to save our people from economic hardship. Look everywhere, both here and abroad, for revenue-enhancements measures and does it fast for the time not on your side.

We cannot change anything if our attitude continues in its present track. So please plan ahead and have a vision of hope for the future. Admittedly, you cannot take all the blame for the mistakes of the past. But to continue on the same path to self-destruction will show callous disregard to the rule of the law and welfare of the people.

Please I ask you again, let's all work together and face up to our responsibilities and obligations like what our ancestors had always done in the time of crisis…they all help one another. That is the Chamorro and Carolinian way. It behooves you to think of the future where your grandchildren and great grandchildren will be reading your legacy as an elected official. Either you become part of the solution in saving the CNMI or be part of the problem for now knowing what to do to save it. It's your call.

Justin S. Manglona
Sinapalo, Rota

Where is the law?

I like to respond to what has been reported in the newspapers about my daughter Carmelita. Police arrested my daughter for allegedly hitting her common-law husband with her car.

The morning after the incident, I actually went to the hospital to check on her common-law husband. When I went and asked information at the emergency room, they told me that they released him already.

If it's serious like broken ribs and other injuries, they will not release him right away. About the frying pan case, Carmelita is not crazy just to slap his common-law husband with a frying pan without reason.

That's why Carmelita told their kid to call the police when he saw her mom crying and laying down on the floor. It would've not happened if her common-law husband followed his restraining order in the first place. Why did he enter his wife's house when there's a restraining order preventing him from not coming within 200 feet of her? My daughter is not supposed to be in jail if this guy obeyed the law.

Teddy Guiao
Lower Navy Hill

CANDIDATES

From Page 10

has not made a sharp break with George W. Bush on Iraq, Afghanistan and the war on terror. They have a point more telling than they may realize.

Historically, presidential candidates from the party out of power promise big changes in foreign policy—but once in office, they usually opt for modest changes or outright continuity.

Bill Clinton criticized President George H.W. Bush for refusing to apply trade sanctions to pressure China on human rights but reversed himself in office. George W. Bush faulted Clinton for overextending the American military and then invaded Iraq as well as Afghanistan. Most new presidents find their predecessors were wiser than they imagined.

Whatever the outcome of the election, the effect on U.S. foreign policy will probably be less than the campaign charges suggest. The British government will doubtless forget its recent pique if Romney wins. The Israelis will manage to work with Obama if he's reelected. The Palestinians probably won't achieve national statehood in either case. Global utopia is not at hand in either case, and neither is apocalypse.

Over the next three months, there will be a lot of sharp rhetoric from each candidate about the dangers the other would present in the world arena. It's worth keeping in mind that the sharp rhetoric comes about not because they are so different but because they are so similar.

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Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Southwest winds 10 to 20 mph.	Mostly sunny with isolated showers. Southwest winds 10 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼78°	▲88 ° ▼78°	▲87° ▼78°	▲87° ▼78°	▲87° ▼78°

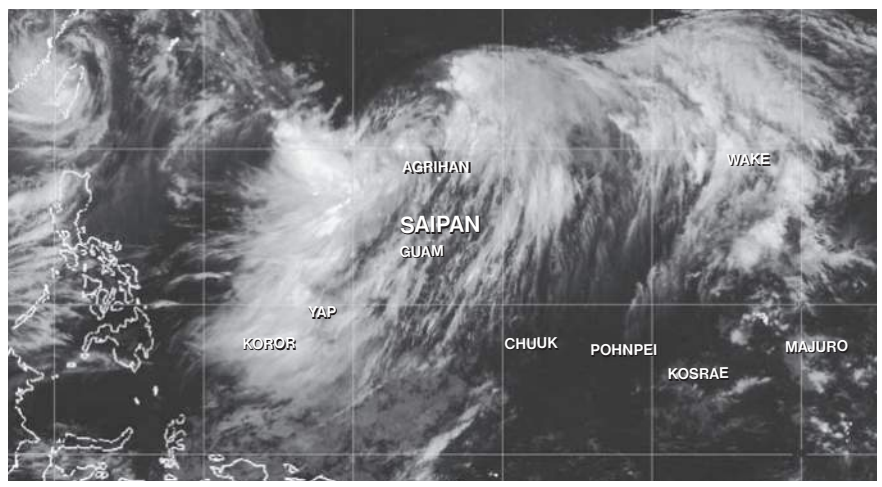
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼79
Palau	Showers	▲85	▼78
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲89	▼78
Chuuk	Showers	▲85	▼77
Pohnpei	Showers	▲86	▼74
Kosrae	Showers	▲86	▼74
Majuro	Showers	▲87	▼81

Around The Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲63	▼53
Beijing	Thunderstorms	▲84	▼73
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲93	▼83
Honolulu	Sunny	▲86	▼74
London	Showers	▲71	▼59
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲79	▼62
Manila	Thundershowers	▲85	▼79
Melbourne	Showers	▲62	▼46
Miami	Thundershowers	▲91	▼78
New York	Partly Cloudy	▲88	▼72
Osaka	Sunny	▲96	▼77
Paris	Partly Cloudy	▲76	▼60
Pusan	Partly Cloudy	▲86	▼79
Rome	Sunny	▲93	▼69
Salem	Partly Cloudy	▲80	▼56
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲70	▼55
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲95	▼76
Tokyo	Sunny	▲90	▼75
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	▲95	▼77

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, THURSDAY, AUGUST 2, 2012
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A monsoon trough stretches eastward from south of Okinawa across 23N130E through a low-level circulation centered just north of the Marianas at 23N145E to a second weak circulation located east of Minami Tori Shima at 23N159E to finally end at 23N164E. Showers and thunderstorms are in two adjacent large areas. One area is west of the Marianas islands with numerous showers and scattered thunderstorms across Koror and Yap northward between 5N and 23N from 133E to 144E. The second area with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms is across the Northern Marianas and from near Iwo To island to Wake Island between 18N and 25N from 144E to 170E. Low-level convergence is producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms northeast of the Marianas Islands to south of Guam within 150 miles of a line from 18N153E to 10N145E. Converging surface winds are triggering scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms south of Wake Island within 155 miles of a line from 17N166E to 9N170E. A trade-wind disturbance is producing isolated thunderstorms near and south of Kwajelein and Majuro between 2N to 9N from 165E and 175E.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

3:24 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.9 Feet
8:34 AM	Today	High Tide:	2.0 Feet
3:41 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.3 Feet
10:17 PM	Today	High Tide:	2.0 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:00 AM	6:46 PM
Saturday	6:00 AM	6:46 PM
Sunday	6:00 AM	6:45 PM
Monday	6:01 AM	6:45 PM
Tuesday	6:01 AM	6:45 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	7:28 PM	6:42 AM
Saturday	8:10 PM	7:37 AM
Sunday	8:50 PM	8:29 AM
Monday	9:30 PM	9:19 AM
Tuesday	10:09 PM	10:09 AM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

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- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

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ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JULY 14, 2012

DEPARTURES

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA5062	2:40am	3:10am	1, 3, 5
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)			
UA5070	4:35am	5:25am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5062	4:50am	5:40am	1, 3, 5
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA5074	11:30am	12:20pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5076	3:10pm	4:00pm	Daily
UA5078	6:50pm	7:40pm	Daily
UA5072	9:55pm	10:45pm	Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)			
DL287	6:05am	8:45am	Daily
DL285	6:30am	9:15am	1, 3, 5, 7
DL297	4:35pm	7:20pm	Daily
SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX)			
0Z606/120	2:20am	8:50pm	1 via ICN
0Z606/120	2:50am	8:50pm	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)			
0Z606	2:20am	6:00am	1
0Z606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
0Z604	3:30pm	6:55pm	Daily
SAIPAN-GUANZHOU (CAN)			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)			
0Z606/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
0Z606/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5070/191	4:35am	9:55am	3, 6 via GUM
DL287/173	6:05am	10:00pm	Daily via NRT
UA5076/183	3:10pm	8:45pm	Daily via GUM
UA5076/193	3:10pm	10:25pm	2, 5 via GUM-Palau
0Z604/703	3:30pm	10:40pm	Daily via ICN
UA5072/PR111	9:55pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)			
0Z606/721	2:20am	11:50pm	1 via ICN
0Z606/721	2:50am	11:50pm	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5076/147	3:10pm	9:45pm	1, 5 via GUM
0Z604/723	3:30pm	10:40pm	Daily via ICN

ARRIVALS

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)			
UA5062	3:40am	5:40am	1, 3, 5 via SPN
ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN (SPN)			
UA5062	3:40am	4:15am	1, 3, 5
GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA5062	2:40am	4:15am	1, 3, 5 via ROP
UA 5069	2:45am	3:35am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5071	7:10am	8:00am	Daily
UA5073	10:05am	10:55am	Daily
UA5075	1:45pm	2:35pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5077	5:25pm	6:15pm	Daily
UA5079	8:35pm	9:25pm	Daily
NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL286	7:40pm	12:15am +1	2, 4, 6, 7
DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL288	8:15pm	12:50am+1	Daily
OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN			
0Z119/606	9:30am	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
0Z119/606	9:30am	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
0Z603	8:50am	2:20pm	Daily
0Z605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
0Z605	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
GUANZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
DL172/288	7:50am	12:50am+1	Daily via NRT
UA190/5077	10:55am	6:15pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA190/5079	10:55am	9:25pm	3, 6 via GUM
0Z702/605	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
0Z702/605	12:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/UA5071	10:10pm	8:00am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA192/5071	9:45pm	8:00am+1	2, 5 via GUM-Palau
UA184/5071	10:55pm	8:00am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/5071	11:25pm	8:00am+1	2, 5 via GUM
0Z704/603	11:40pm	2:20pm+1	Daily via ICN
HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
0Z724/603	12:30am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
0Z722/605	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7
0Z722/605	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
UA180/5071	10:35pm	8:00am+1	1, 5 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

Tradition crafts making offered this weekend

The Rota Chamorro Cultural Center is offering free lessons on making asentun gabgab, alaguan aliling, and coconut leaf grasshopper this Saturday, Aug. 4, from 8am to 3pm with lunch break between 11:30am and 12:30pm.

These activities are held at the back side of the Rota Community & Cultural Affairs Office Compound. Bring your children so they too can learn the traditional ways of the Chamorros and Carolinians.

On Tinian, the Tinian Chamorro-Carolinian Cultural Center is offering free lesson on making saibuk chodda at the Man'amku' Center Pavilion.

The above activities are sponsored by the Association of Native Medicine and Culture, in partnership with the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs on Rota and Tinian, the offices of the mayors of Rota and Tinian, and the Indigenous Affairs Office, and funded in part by the Administration for Native Americans.

For more information, please call Beck Kani on Rota at 532-9350/5562, Raymond Sablan on Tinian at 433-9220. On Saipan please call 322-0278.

Veterans outreach set for Aug. 13-16

This is to inform all Veterans that Tina San Agustin, Federal Department of Veterans Affairs Senior Veteran's Service Representative from Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, will be on Rota and Saipan for Veterans Outreach on Veterans Federal Benefits. She will also be entertaining your questions and assist you with your claims.

Date, time and place are as follows:

- Rota: Monday, Aug. 13, 2012, 0830-1630 at the WIA Office
- Saipan: Tuesday, Aug. 14, 2012, 0900-1630

Wednesday, Aug. 15, 2012. 0800-1630

Thursday, Aug. 16, 2012, 0800-1130

at the Office of Military/ Veterans Affairs, Building 1364, Capitol Hill

If you wish to make an appt or for further information, please contact Bernie B. Dela Cruz at the Office of Military/ Veterans affairs at (670) 664-2650/59. ***(PR)***

BON VOYAGE
Bon voyage to Belle Engelskjen. As you embark on your new journey, we pray for traveling mercy. Please take with you our love and our prayers that all will be well with you and the whole family. May God be always at your side guiding and protecting you (Joshua 1:7). May you instill in your mind all the words of wisdom that you have learned as you grow in the knowledge of God. Bon voyage and may God bless you always. From your Saipan Community Church family.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

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2009 Nissan Xterra S
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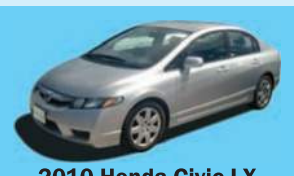
$17,995.00

2004 Honda Accord LX
STOCK # 4A07149
$12,995.00*

2005 Ford Five Hundred SE
STOCK # 5C104810
$10,995.00*

2006 Kia Sorento LX 4WD
STOCK # 65602982
$12,995.00*

2004 Honda Accord LX
STOCK # 4A068311
$12,995.00*


2010 Honda Civic LX
STOCK # AE035279
$16,995.00*

2005 Nissan Maxima SE
STOCK # 5C807751
$13,995.00*

2010 Kia Rio LX
STOCK # A6673680
$12,995.00*

2008 Mazda RX8
STOCK # 80214167
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Joseph (Jay) Cabrera
Sales Consultant
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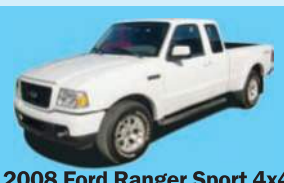
2009 Nissan Altima S
STOCK # 9C188438
$18,995.00*


2008 Ford Ranger Sport 4x4
STOCK # 8PA43917
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1 Miles accrued and awards issued are subject to the rules of the MileagePlus® program. United, its subsidiaries, affiliates and agents are not responsible for any products and services of other participating companies or partners. Please allow six to eight weeks after completed qualifying activity for bonus miles to be posted to your MileagePlus account. Bonus miles and miles earned through non-flight activity do not count towards Premier® status. Bonus mile offers are subject to change without notice. Taxes and fees related to award travel are the responsibility of the passenger. United may change MileagePlus program rules, regulations, travel awards and special offers or terminate the MileagePlus program at any time and without notice. MileagePlus participation may not be permitted in some countries. United and MileagePlus are registered service marks.

2 Subject to credit approval. United MileagePlus cardholders will receive one mile for every $1.00 of net purchases and one additional mile per $1 of qualifying ticket purchases, made directly from United. Apply by August 31, 2012 and if you are approved, receive 5,000 MileagePlus bonus miles upon account opening, 15,000 MileagePlus bonus miles with your first purchase by October 31, 2012 and an additional 10,000 MileagePlus bonus miles when you spend $1,000 within the first 4 months of account opening. Please allow six to eight weeks after completed qualifying activity for bonus miles to be posted to your MileagePlus account.

3 The Annual Percentage Rate (APR) for Purchases is a variable rate of 16.24% APR as of 7/30/12. The fixed Cash Advance APR is 18.00%. The fixed Penalty APR is 18.00% and may be applied if you make a late payment. The Minimum Interest Charge will be no less than $1.00. The ATM Cash Advance Fee is 3% of the transaction amount ($3 min/$50 max) and the Over-the-Counter Cash Advance Fee and Convenience Check Fees are 3% of the transaction amount ($5min/$50 max). The Foreign Transaction Fee is 2.5% of each transaction in U.S. dollars. $0 intro annual fee for the first year after account opening; thereafter, the annual fee is $60. Additional limitations, terms and conditions apply.

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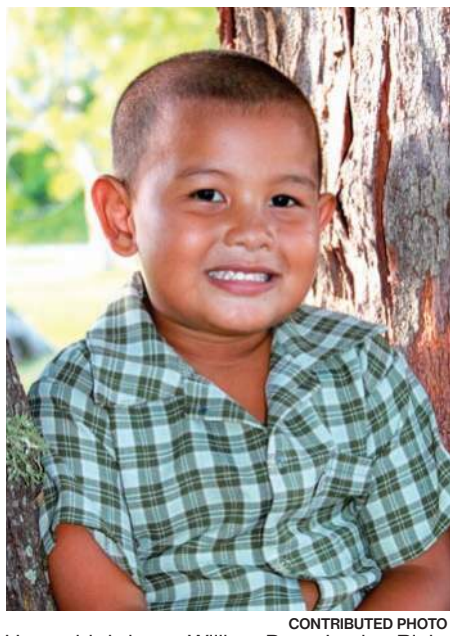
BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy birthday to William Peter Laniyo Richards who is turning 5 years old today. Happy birthday HULK, enjoy, God bless you, and may many more come your way. We love you from Iune, Nicia, and family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy birthday Anthony Santos may you have many more to come, enjoy your special day and cheeeeerrrsss! From Randall, Marissa, friends, and family.

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Happy birthday to Kaleo Olaitiman. May your day be filled with much more joy and happiness! God bless and love always from KaiLani and Franklin.

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* Ford Fiesta total price $17,995.00 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 7% APR for 60 monthly payments of $285.04 or $131.56 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred price $17,102.24. Documentation fees and registration not included.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

BMV is open today

Department of Public Safety acting commissioner Ambrosio T. Ogumoro is pleased to announce that the Bureau of Motor of Vehicle (BMV) will be open today, Aug. 3, 2012. BMV will be open every other Friday in pursuant to the governor's directive of lifting eight hours of austerity measures.

Ogumoro is notifying all motor vehicle owners issued temporary license plates and car registrations to appear at BMV and surrender the temporary plates and registration. In return, new license plates and registrations will be issued.

For more information, contact BMV licensing and registration at 664-9066. ***(PR)***

MHS PTA Clean-Up, Paint, and Beautify Day tomorrow

This Saturday, Aug. 4, 2012 at 7:30am, MHS Parent Teacher Association (PTA) will conduct a Clean-Up, Paint, and Beautify Day at our campus. Please come to help prepare our campus for the new school year. For more information, contact Bobbie Torres at 287-6463, Martin Dalsaso, or John Davis at 237-3202/4. ***(PR)***

Marianas High School orientation schedule

Due to the implementation of new school policies and changes, Marianas High School is encouraging all parents, guardians, and students to attend these orientation sessions.

- Aug. 8, 2012, 9am for incoming 12th graders
- Aug. 9, 2012, 9am for incoming 11th graders
- Aug. 10, 2012, 9am for incoming 10th graders
- Aug. 23, 2012, 9am for incoming 9th graders, New and Transfer students (Please be prepared to get your picture taken for your school ID.)

Should you have any questions, please contact us at 237-3206. ***(PR)***

UOG to hold retiree recognition ceremony

As part of the University of Guam's yearlong 60th Anniversary Celebration, UOG retirees will be recognized and honored for their dedication, service, and contribution to the University's growth and success during a special ceremony.

The event will be held from 10am to 12noon on Friday, Aug. 3, at the Jesus S. and Eugenia A. Leon Guerrero School of Business and Public Administration Building, Multi-Purpose Room #129. Nearly 350 UOG retirees will be recognized during the ceremony.

For more information about the University of Guam's 60th Anniversary, visit www.uog.edu/2012. ***(PR)***

O'Kane to join KUTh Energy board

»Company was selected by CUC to develop geothermal energy in CNMI

KUTh Energy Limited, the geothermal company selected by Commonwealth Utilities Corp. to drill and develop renewable geothermal energy in the CNMI, has announced to the Australian Securities Exchange that professor Mary O'Kane will join its board of directors on Aug. 9.

O'Kane joins a well-qualified KUTh team that includes such notables as professor Jefferson Tester, David Croll Professor of Sustainable Energy Systems in the School of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering at Cornell University—a member of the KUTh advisory board.

For the past three years, O' Kane has chaired the Australian Centre for Renewable Energy, the head Australian government agency responsible for administering the Australian government's renewable energy support initiatives.

In her role at the agency, professor O'Kane was responsible for a wide range of renewables including the solar flagship program, geothermal, wave and other associated alternate energy programs. Professor O'Kane is also chair of the Development Gateway headquartered in Washington, D.C. and its sister organization, Development Gateway International, based in Brussels and chairs the NSW government Renewable Energy Taskforce.

O'Kane

Commenting on her appointment to the KUTh board of director, professor O'Kane said: "I am very much looking forward to helping build on the solid platform that has been established by the KUTh board. KUTh brings together two interests of mine: geothermal energy and developing countries."

This past January, after evaluating KUTh's proposal, CUC notified KUTh that it would be awarded the geothermal development contract.

"We submitted a detailed geothermal development program and KUTh Energy was ranked number one by the CUC Selection Committee. This created a lot of excitement at the time and we invested a lot of time and effort to gear up our teams in Australia and Saipan for drilling that was anticipated to start this past June," said David McDonald, managing director of KUTh Energy. "That drilling hasn't happened yet though as we are awaiting our contract."

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial recently stated in executive order no. 2012-07 that, due to the renewable energy crisis, contracts likes KUTh's "must be brought to completion as soon as possible or the customers of CUC will continue to suffer from high oil prices."

"The governor's order gives us hope that the geothermal contract will be executed soon and the drilling and development can begin," said McDonald. "And we are encouraged as well by our recent meeting with the lieutenant governor [Eloy S. Inos] toward the end."

Indeed, KUTh is no stranger to developing remote island geothermal projects. A Vanuatu government commissioned World Bank report recently stated, "The Takara (Vanuatu) geothermal power plant is the…least-cost-base-load power supply addition for Efate…compared to diesel, wind and solar photovoltaics. Development of the Takaru geothermal resource should be prioritized above development of other generation technologies." The report further went on to say "This study conducted an independent review of KUTh's data and analysis and confirms that KUTh's exploration and development strategy is sound."

McDonald further added "CUC has placed its confidence in us to conduct a very important first step in the investigation for geothermal potential on Saipan. Identification of future geothermal drilling targets is a highly scientific skill and I think our submission to the committee showed that our approach is based on a well-considered development program. We are committed to deliver on the confidence placed in us and in doing so hopefully identify a commercial geothermal resource to help the residents and businesses of the CNMI to reduce the price volatility and lower the cost of electricity." ***(PR)***

SUSTAINABLE ENERGY WORKSHOP

Private and public school teachers completed the Incorporating Sustainable Energy and Environmental Concepts into High School Science Curriculum workshop on July 25, 2012 which was offered through a collaboration between the University of Guam Center for Island Sustainability and UOG Professional & International Programs. Pictured from left, front row, are Kiko Palacios, UOG Energy Technician, Elvie Tyler, UOG Sustainability Coordinator, John Roldan, Joseph Devencia, Arlene Chua, Tina Lizama, Raymond Perez, Elizabeth Cruz, Arceli Quilla; pictured back row from left are Cathleen Moore-Linn, director UOG Professional & International Programs, Edward Tan, Bruce Best, instructor, Luis Cabral, Heidi Freiders, Tholeathcus Raiford, Arthur Gibson, and Jacqueline Pablo. Each of the participating teachers received a solar kit which will help them teach renewable energy concepts in their classrooms.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

First Friday Films presents 'Play Again'

First Friday Films will feature *Play Again* today, Aug. 3, 6:30pm at the American Memorial Park Visitor's Center as part of its ongoing monthly environmental film series.

What they do not know, they will not protect, and what they do not protect, they will lose. At a time when children play more behind screens than outside, *Play Again* explores the changing balance between the virtual and natural worlds. Is our connection to nature disappearing down the digital rabbit hole?

This documentary follows six teenagers who, like the "average American child," spend five to fifteen hours a day behind screens. *Play Again* unplugs these teens and takes them on their first wilderness adventure—no electricity, no cell phone coverage, no virtual reality. What are we missing when we are behind screens? How does this impact our children's well being, our society and the very future of our planet?

Play Again introduces new perspectives and encourages action for a sustainable future.

First Friday Films is a monthly film series brought to you through a partnership with the National Park Service and the Division of Environmental Quality (DEQ), with generous support from community groups. This particular film is provided by the Humanities Council.

For planning purposes, the movie runs about 80 minutes long. As always, First Friday Films is free and open to the public. For more information about First Friday Films, check out www.firstfridayfilmssaipan.blogspot.com or email fffsaipan@gmail.com to be added to the mailing list. ***(PR)***

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

PROCUREMENT AND DELIVERY OF DIVE RESCUE EQUIPMENT
PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-004-12

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Commonwealth Ports Authority, Port of Saipan is soliciting sealed proposals for the procurement and delivery of the following Dive Rescue Equipment:

- 12 ea. ~Gauge Console
- 12 ea. ~ Dive Watch Computer w/transmitter
- 12 ea. ~ MK 25T/S600T (Regulator)
- 12 ea. ~ R295 Octo
- 12 ea. ~ Gauge on a Console Imperial
- 12 ea. ~ Power Inflator
- 12 ea. ~.5mm Wetsuit
- 12 ea. ~ Mouthpiece
- 12 ea. ~ Mask
- 12 ea. ~ Snorkel
- 12 ea. ~ Fins II
- 12 ea. ~ Boots
- 12 ea. ~ Boots Short
- 12 ea. ~ Tank Bangers
- 12 ea. ~ Gloves
- 12 ea. ~ SL4 Underwater Lights
- 12 ea. ~ C4 Underwater Lights
- 12 ea. ~ Compact Torch
- 12 ea. ~ Knife Drop Point
- 12 ea. ~ Accessories for Console
- 12 ea. ~ Reef Hooks
- 12 ea. ~ Hose Holder
- 2 ea. ~ Dive master Slate
- 2 ea. ~ Dive Flad (innovative)
- 2 ea. ~ Ring Kit and Pickers
- 2 ea. ~ Magnetic Slates with Holster
- 5 ea. ~ Safety Throw
- 5 ea. ~ Rescue Throw
- 2 ea. ~ Inner Tube
- 5 ea. ~ Mini Underwater Lights
- 2 ea. ~ Tank Checker
- 1 ea. ~ Tool Kit
- 12 ea. ~ Dry Case
- 12 ea. ~ Signal Tube

The List of the Dive Equipment will be available at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, 2nd Floor of the Arrival Building on July 16th, 2012.

All proposals shall be sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: "Proposal for Procurement and Delivery of Dive Rescue Equipment." One (1) original and two (2) copies of the proposal must be submitted no later than 2:00 P.M. LOCAL TIME, August 10th, 2012, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport. Proposals received unsealed or unlabeled will not be considered. Proposals submitted by facsimile (fax) Transmission will not be considered. Any proposals received after the proposal submittal deadline shall be returned to the proposer unopened. Should a proposer find discrepancies in, or omission from, the description or specifications contained herein, proposer shall at once notify Ms. Kay Inos at telephone numbers 664-3550 or 664-3562 respectively, and should it be found necessary, a written addendum will be sent to all proposers. Proposers must guarantee that any or all equipment found defective at the time of delivery must replace equipment within 60 days from date of first delivery.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for; (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request For Proposals; (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the procurement project would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

All proposals shall become the property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority. This RFP shall be executed as per the CPA Procurement Regulations.

Funding for the procurement of the Dive Rescue Equipment is made possible by the 2009 Port Security Grant Program from the U.S Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency. All items listed above will be used at the Seaport Division.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ EDWARD M. DELEON GUERRERO
Executive Director

07/09/2012
DATE

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

PROCUREMENT AND DELIVERY OF
PERSONAL WATERCRAFTS/TRAILERS/ACCESSORIES
PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-006-12

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Commonwealth Ports Authority, Port of Saipan is soliciting sealed proposals for the procurement and delivery of the following personal watercrafts, trailers and accessories:

- 6 ea. ~ Personal Watercrafts

Specifications

Rider Capacity:	2 persons
Length:	130.7"
Width:	48-49"
Height:	45-46"
Dry Weight:	809-812 lbs.
Fuel Capacity:	16-18 Gallons
Storage Capacity:	30 Gallons

Glove Box
Hydro Turf Mats
Automatic Bilge System/Electronic Bilge
Chrome Accents
Ergolock System/Adjustable Rear Sponsons/Trim Tabs

Engine Specifications

Engine Type:	Supercharged with external intercooler
Pump Type:	155mm High Pressure/axial flow
Fuel Type Recommended:	Regular Unleaded
Displacement:	1500-1800 cc

Electronic Fuel Injection
T3 Haul
IBR (Intelligent Brake and Reverse) System
Quick Shift Trim System
Re-boarding Step

Other Options
Slow Mode
Cruise Control
Depth Finder
Fold-Down Step
Removable Dry Bag for Front Storage
Protective Cover
Safety Kit
Fire Extinguisher

- 6 ea. ~ Trailers for the Personal Watercraft

Specifications
Aluminum Single PWC Trailer with ST175/80D-13 Tires
On Aluminum Wheel with Tongue Jack

- 12 ea. ~ 20ft. Heavy Dock Lines
- 12 ea. ~ Telescopic Paddles
- 12 ea. ~ Wrap-it-up Rope Wraps
- 12 ea. ~ Pull up cleats
- 12 ea. ~ Emergency Tow Lines
- 24 ea. ~ Custom Deluxe Series Tie Downs
- 24 ea. ~ Fenders 22" White/Blue
- 12 ea. ~ Rope Float
- 6 ea. ~ Multi Color Registration Kits

The List for the Procurement and Delivery of Personal Watercrafts, Trailers and Accessories will be available at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, 2nd Floor of the Arrival Building on July 16th , 2012.

All proposals shall be sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: "Proposal for Procurement and Delivery of Personal Watercrafts, Trailers and Accessories." One (1) original and two (2) copies of the proposal must be submitted no later than 2:00 P.M. LOCAL TIME, August 10th, 2012, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport. Proposals received unsealed or unlabeled will not be considered. Proposals submitted by facsimile (fax) Transmission will not be considered. Any proposals received after the proposal submittal deadline shall be returned to the proposer unopened. Should a proposer find discrepancies in, or omission from, the description or specifications contained herein, proposer shall at once notify Ms. Kay Inos at telephone numbers 664-3550 or 664-3562 respectively, and should it be found necessary, a written addendum will be sent to all proposers. Proposers must guarantee that any or all equipment found defective at the time of delivery must replace equipment within 60 days from date of first delivery.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for; (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request For Proposals; (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the procurement project would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

All proposals shall become the property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority. This RFP shall be executed as per the CPA Procurement Regulations.

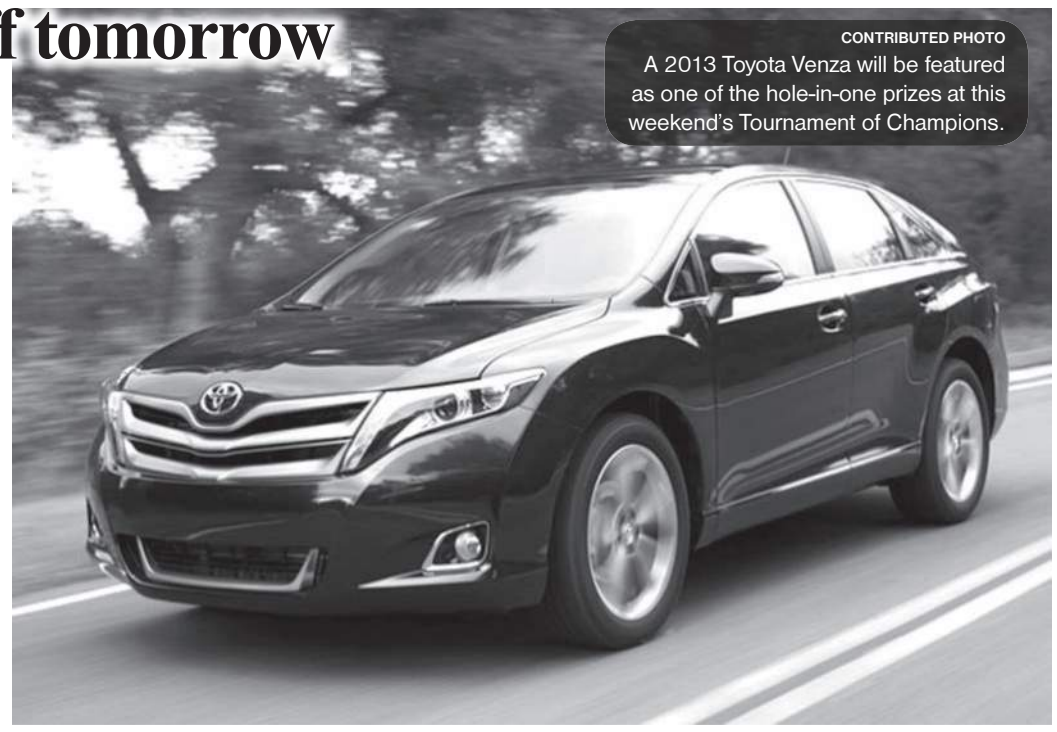
Funding for the procurement of watercrafts, trailers and accessories is made possible by the 2009 Port Security Grant Program from the U.S Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency. All items listed above will be used at the Seaport Division.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ EDWARD M. DELEON GUERRERO
Executive Director

07/09/2012
DATE

Tournament of Champions kicks off tomorrow



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
A 2013 Toyota Venza will be featured as one of the hole-in-one prizes at this weekend's Tournament of Champions.

The first day of the CNMI's premier golf event, the 17th Annual Tournament of Champions, kicks off tomorrow with about 200 players from the CNMI, Guam, Korea, and Guam.

"Many sponsors have stepped up their generosity this year to contribute to more than $300,000 in possible prizes for this weekend's event, making this one of the biggest Tournament of Champions in its 17-year history," said tournament director Ben Babauta.

"In fact, Microl Toyota recently confirmed that it is donating a brand new 2013 Toyota Venza as a hole-in-one prize, adding to the other vehicles already donated by Triple J and Joeten Motors for hole-in-one prizes," added Babauta.

The 17th Tournament of Champions will be played at the Laolao Bay Golf Resort's east and west courses tomorrow, Aug. 4, and Sunday, Aug. 5.

Hundreds of thousands worth of possible prizes include hole-in-one prizes valued at $50,000 on both the east and west courses courtesy of AON Insurance, and another $20,000 hole-in-one prize from Bank of Hawaii. Other hole-in-one prizes include a 2012 Ford Fiesta from Joeten Motors and a 2013 Hyundai Elantra from Triple J Motors.

Saipan Laolao Golf Resort is also offering one year of free golf as another hole-in-one prize, and Delta Airlines is also contributing business class airfares to the U.S. mainland as yet an additional hole-in-one prize. The tournament will also be featuring $1,000 cash prizes for closest-to-pin competitions.

In addition, first place winners in the Men's Championship, A, B, C, Senior, and Super Senior Flights will each receive $500 cash, $400 for second, $300 for third, a digital camera to fourth, and $100 DFS gift certificate for fifth place. The Ladies Low Gross champion will receive $500, $400 for second, and $300 for third place. The first, second, and third place winners of the Ladies Low Net will receive a trophy.

Since its inception, TOC has given over $500,000 to the Saipan Beautification Fund which has gone directly to the improvements of the tree-lined traffic medians that stretch from Garapan to the former Palm Resort Saipan, as well as the revitalization of the Garapan special district. In addition, TOC also contributed funds for the Paseo de Marianas, the lighting of the Saipan Beach Pathway, and most recently the beautification of the Port to Park pathway.

Registration for the two-day tournament is $175, which includes a lunch banquet on the second day. Please register before 12pm today, Aug. 3, 2012, by submitting registration form and registration fee at 2nd Floor DFS Galleria or at Saipan Laolao Bay Golf Resort. For more information about the event, contact Ben Babauta at 483-2563 or Marida Pensader at 236-2530. ***(PR)***

PSS releases registration dates for online course program

The CNMI Public School System has announced that its Fall 2012 online course registration is open to all students in the CNMI grades 7-12.

Students must register online at www.goo.gl/VJJwc. Deadline to register is Aug. 17, 2012. Registration after this date will require approval and/or student to be wait-listed. It is first come, first serve with priority given to high school juniors and seniors for high-demand high school courses.

Courses being offered allow students to receive credit required for promotion and graduation.

Do you have a computer and access to the Internet? Do you want to graduate on time or early? If you answered yes, you're motivated and can work independently from home then get on your computer, register and attend an orientation.

Laptops are suggested but not required for hands-on orientation listed below.

Recruitment, registration, and orientation schedules are as follows:

1. Aug. 7 (Tuesday)

■ Sinapalo Library 11am-12:30pm

■ Rota Mayor's Office 5:30pm-7:30pm

2. Aug. 8 (Wednesday)

■ RHI Library 9am-11am

■ Sinapalo Library 12:30pm-2pm

3. Aug. 14 (Tuesday), Saipan Multi-Purpose Center 5:30pm-7pm

4. Aug. 17 (Friday), Kagman High School Cafeteria 1:30pm-3pm

5. Aug. 22 (Wednesday), Saipan Multi-Purpose Center 5:30pm-7pm

6. Aug. 23 (Thursday), Tinian Jr./Sr. High School Library

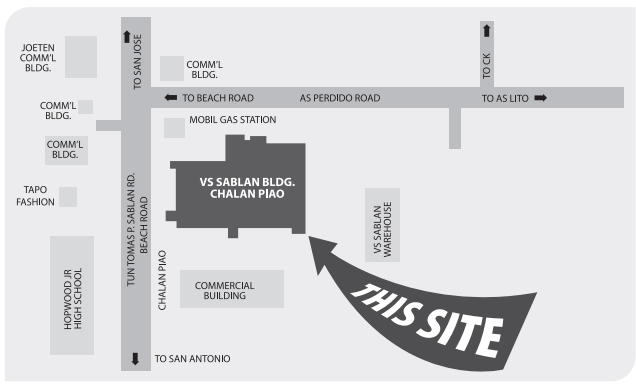
■ 9am-11am (Recruitment & Registration Only)

■ 12:30pm – 2pm (Orientation)

Fall courses begin Sept. 4, 2012 and end Jan. 18, 2013. Courses include: Algebra 1, Algebra 2, Geometry, Pre-Calculus, US History, AP US History, US Government & Economics, NMI History, Health, Environmental Science, Biology, Chemistry, Integrated Literature & Composition (LA 1), World Literature (LA 2), American Literature (LA 3), British Literature (LA 4), Pre-AP English Language, AP English Language, Chamorro, Carolinian, Japanese, Middle School English, Middle School Science, Middle School General Math, Pre-Algebra, Accelerated Reading & Writing, Financial Literacy, SAT Prep, Teacher Academy, Student Leadership, Computer Applications, Computer Literacy, Psychology, Multimedia and Video Production. Courses are updated as they become available. Courses that do not meet the minimum number of students will not be offered.

To download registration forms or to get more information about online courses, visit www.cnmipss.org or contact Jeaniffer Cubangbang at 670-237-3014 or email jeaniffer.cubangbang@cnmipss.org. ***(PR)***

Sablan Enterprises, Inc
***dba* SABLAN REALTY**



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Now Open Daily 10:00AM to 7:00PM

Checkout **OUR INDOOR BAZAAR VENDORS**.
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Home of **Pena House Boutique** & the **Bank of Saipan**

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invites you to locate your business or residence at one of our great locations.
Maintenance Free. Common Areas & Grounds Cleaned Daily.
Commercial Space Rent at our San Jose & Chalan Piao Buildings. 2nd Floor units Available at San Jose for **50 Cents per Square Foot**.

At our **Chalan Kanoa Building**, we have an Apartment Unit available for rent on the 2nd and 3rd floor. Also available is an office space above Bank of Saipan (2nd floor). Call to see and inquire about monthly rent price. **Very Affordable.**

At **Our Chalan Piao Building, VSS PLAZA** we have rental space available on the **first floor** now at **65 cents per square foot** for units ranging from 700 sq ft to 1400 sq ft. Large 4500 square foot space on the second floor that would be ideal for a GYM or Dance Studio at **35 cents per square foot.**

2nd Floor Apartment at our Chalan Piao Location – 1BR 1 Bath 560 sq ft with Refrigerator $235.00 per month plus Utilities

3rd Floor Apartment for Rent at our Chalan Piao Location – 3 Bedroom, 2 Full Bath, Semi-Furnished with Refrigerator & Stove, 1470 sq ft, Save on Power – Great Breeze thru the Apartment. No Need Air Conditioning. **$500 per month plus Utilities**

For Lease – 53,500 Sq Meters Available for Lease in Kanat Tabla.
Ocean View. 31 years Remaining on Lease.
Asking 10.00 per square meter. Negotiable.
– 3,779 Sq Meters Available for Lease at Laulau Bay. 44 years Remaining on Lease.
Asking $25.00 per square meter. Negotiable.

Welcome H-MART
to our Chalan Piao Business location

Contact Tony Muna (Cell No. 888-9290 Email Address: plebechamp80@gmail.com) or Ben Sablan (Cell No. 898-9285 Email Address: vicente_sablan@yahoo.com) or Call 234-2585.

The Financial & Insurance Services Group, Inc.

REPOSSESSED VEHICLES FOR SALE

YEAR:	MAKE:	MODEL:	LIC NO.:
2005	TOYOTA	COROLLA 4 DR SEDAN	ACA 967
2003	NISSAN	ALTIMA 4 DR SEDAN	ABZ 148
2007	YAMAHA	XVS 650	MAB 388

The Financial & Insurance Services Group, Inc. (FISG) is now accepting sealed bids on the above-mentioned vehicles & motorcycle at their office located in the Cabrera Center on Beach Road Garapan, Saipan.

FISG reserves the right to refuse any and all bids. Vehicles are sold "AS IS" with no Warranties, Expressed or Implied.

Deadline for bidding is on Friday, August 10, 2012.

For more information, contact Diego Masga at 234-8615/5706

PUBLIC NOTICE

SUGAR DOCK BOAT LAUNCHING RAMP WILL BE CLOSED TEMPORARILY FROM AUGUST 9, 2012 THRU AUGUST 16, 2012. THIS IS NECESSARY FOR THE DIVISION OF FISH & WILDLIFE TO REMOVE THE ACCUMULATED SAND ON THE BOAT RAMP AND CHANNEL AREA.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL 664-6000

Whispering Palms names Epley principal

Whispering Palms School has named William Robert "Rob" Epley as new principal. Epley has been a classroom teacher for 20 years and has taught the last two years at the Navy Hill school.

He will continue to work in the classroom while providing leadership for the small private school. After graduating from San Diego State University in 1992, Epley began his teaching career at Merizo Elementary School in Guam.

Epley

Seven years later, he returned to his hometown of Hungtington Beach, California to continue his education. While teaching sixth grade at Olive Elementary School in Orange, California and earned his Master's Degree in Education and received a Leadership scholarship from National University. For the past seven years he has taught on Saipan.

Whispering Palms School has experienced classroom teachers who will work with students in grade first through eight. Also returning to Whispering Palms this year is Rob's brother Mark, Jenny Slack, and Jennifer Welton.

Mark Epley taught at Garapan Elementary School in the 1990s and has 20 years of teaching experience.

Mark taught at Springbank School in New Zealand before returning to Saipan two years ago.

Slack has her Master's Degree from the state of Colorado, and has been teaching on Saipan since 2006. National Team tennis coach Jeff Race will teach the Physical Education classes, and Maria Ornes, the former PSS "Teacher of the Year" will be teaching hands-on Science classes for all grade levels.

In its 25th year of operation, Whispering Palms offers low student-to-teacher ratio and combined grade level classrooms to provide quality instruction.

Whispering Palms focuses on academic achievement while encouraging the development of character and community service.

The school has only a few openings remaining for this school year. Robert Epley states that "The entire staff at Whispering Palms School are committed to providing a creative and challenging educational experience in a supportive and enriching environment for all of our students and are looking forward to the upcoming school year starting on the eighth of August." ***(PR)***

Army Reserve Enrichment Camp gets high marks

Over 80 Saipan kids recently completed a week of summer camp at Mariana Resort and Spa.

The Army Reserve Enrichment Camp, or AREC, has sponsored camp experiences for military kids on Saipan since 2009. Activities include hiking, swimming, off-roading, field trips, kayaking, snorkeling, and cooking.

The camp is put on by Marianas Trekking, which has been offering summer camp in partnership with Mariana Resort for the last 13 years.

Many of the campers come from families whose parents have been deployed in recent years and one of the goals is to help the kids learn more about their parents service to their country and develop leadership and teamwork skills.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Over 80 Saipan kids recently completed a week of summer camp sponsored by the Army Reserve Enrichment Camp held at Mariana Resort and Spa.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Many of the campers come from families whose parents have been deployed in recent years.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Summer camp activities included hiking, swimming, off-roading, field trips, kayaking, snorkeling, and cooking.

Youth Services Specialist Travis Mckinney was in Saipan for the week to help administer the camp and said, "This year's camp was highly successful and after reviewing parent surveys, they were very pleased with the outcome. Marianas Trekking staff could not have been more accommodating to our CYSS staff and Military Family and Life Consultant (MFLC). The camp counselors along with Soldiers of the 9th MSC helped to make the "Military Day" a phenomenal event. We are very appreciative that the Army Reserve CYS Mission: "To support readiness and quality of life of families by reducing the conflict between military mission requirements and parental responsibilities" was fulfilled to a great magnitude."

Marianas Trekking is an adventure company based at the Mariana Resort and Spa and has been running Eco Adventure Camp since 2000. The company also offers a range of adventures like hiking, mountain biking, kayaking, off roading, and paddleboarding. For more information go to marianastrekking.com or contact Elly Stoilova at 323-8735. ***(PR)***

Apartment and Condominium for Rent

GILL BLAS CONDOMINIUM

One Year Contract: Regular Price from ~~$650.00~~ NOW $500.00
Monthly Basis: Price Ranges from $550.00
Power and Water EXCLUDED
LOCATION: Lower Miha, GARAPAN, where 747 Dining & Bar is situated
AMENITIES:

- 24-hr water supply
- Common waste container
- Free moving-service
- On-duty security guard at night
- Parking space
- Back-up generator
- Furnished unit w/ balcony
- Laundry facility
- On-site maintenance
- Swimming pool

SEDA BLANCA APARTMENT

One Year Contract: 1-Bedroom Regular Price ~~$500.00~~ NOW $400.00
Monthly Basis: Studio Type - $350.00 • 1 Bedroom - $450.00
Power and Water EXCLUDED
LOCATION: Lower Miha, GARAPAN, nearby 747 Dining & Bar
AMENITIES:

- 24-hr water supply
- Common waste container
- Free moving-service
- On-site maintenance
- Back-up generator
- Furnished unit w/ balcony
- Laundry facility
- Parking space

PASTEL INN APARTMENT

One Year Contract: Studio – Regular Price ~~$350.00~~ NOW $250.00
2 Bedroom Regular Price ~~$550.00~~ NOW $400.00
Monthly Basis: Studio Type - $270.00 • 2 Bedroom - $420.00
LOCATION: SAN JOSE, right next to Roshi's Store (along Beach Rd)
AMENITIES:

- 24-hr water supply
- Common waste container
- Free moving-service
- On-site maintenance
- Swimming pool w/ BBQ area
- Back-up generator
- Furnished unit w/ balcony
- Laundry facility
- Spacious yard
- Broad parking space (front area and backside)

Apartment Promo
monthly basis-renewable until August 31, 2012

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GILL BLAS CONDOMINIUM
Available units:
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3-BEDROOM—Size: 120 square meter

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We also accommodate Daily, Weekly or Monthly basis.
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Payments made by credit card will be charged the regular price.

For further details: You can visit ATOM's CO., LTD. office, located in Garapan, Saipan. Our office hour is 9:00 am to 6:00 pm on weekdays and 12:00 pm to 5:00 pm on weekends. You can also contact us thru phone at 233-8880 or send us an e-mail at atoms@pticom.com

Business

Budget-and-tax impasse threatens troops, economy

WASHINGTON (AP)—With the government heading toward a year-end "fiscal cliff," House Republicans approved a full plate of Bush-era tax cuts Wednesday that they said could help shore up a still-frail national economy. At the same time, the Obama administration warned that threatened budget cuts could send some of America's troops into battle with less training.

For all the action and talk, however, both taxes and spending were deeply enmeshed in campaign politics, with no resolution expected until after the elections.

Democrats are demanding that any compromise to avoid the $110 billion in budget cuts that are scheduled to kick in Jan. 2 include a tax increase on high-income earners. Republicans reject the idea of raising rates on anyone as the economy struggles to recover fully from recession.

"There are five months remaining for Congress to act," acting White House Budget Director Jeff Zients told the House Armed Services Committee. "What is holding us up right now is the Republican refusal to have the top 2 percent pay their fair share."

Deputy Defense Secretary Ashton Carter told the committee that if Congress fails to come up with a compromise, nearly all elements of the military will be affected by cuts mandated by last year's deficit deal. Training would be scaled back and flying hours for Air Force pilots would be reduced. The Navy would buy fewer ships and the Air Force fewer aircraft.

"Some later-deploying units (including some deploying to Afghanistan) could receive less training, especially in the Army and Marine Corps," Carter said. "Under some circumstances, this reduced training could impact their ability to respond to a new contingency, should one occur." Military personnel would be exempt from job cuts, but furloughs might be issued and commissary hours reduced, he said.

Later, Republicans moved to renew the Bush tax cuts for every working American. The cuts will otherwise expire Dec. 31, part of a combination of effects along with major spending cuts that have been characterized as a "fiscal cliff" for the economy. The bill passed by a 256-171 vote Nineteen Democrats joined with Republicans; retiring Rep. Timothy Johnson of Illinois was the sole Republican to break with his party.

There is no expectation that the Democratic-led Senate will even consider the House measure, at least before the elections.

Oil hovers above $88 as hopes fade for Fed easing

By PABLO GORONDI
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Oil hovered above $88 a barrel Wednesday as hopes dimmed the Federal Reserve will announce a further loosening of monetary policy to boost the flagging U.S. economy and China's manufacturing stayed weak.

By early afternoon in Europe, benchmark crude for September delivery was up 24 cents at $88.30 a barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract lost $1.72 to settle at $88.06 in New York on Tuesday.

In London, Brent crude was up 70 cents at $105.62 on the ICE Futures exchange.

Oil prices have retreated from around $106 a barrel on May 1 as demand for crude has deteriorated on the back of Europe's debt crisis and slowing growth in China.

Expectations are fading that the Fed will announce new measures to boost the U.S. economy after a two-day policy meeting that ends Wednesday.

"Most of the price gains since last week were after all caused by exaggerated hopes of what the central banks might do," said analysts at Commerzbank in Frankfurt. "If, contrary to expectations, the Fed does resolve on concrete quantitative easing (Wednesday) in order to stimulate the economy, the news would give oil prices a boost."

Traders have been guessing for months about when and whether the Federal Reserve would try to spark the economy. Hopes rose last week, then retreated Tuesday, following reports of strengthening consumer confidence and home values.

"All eyes are focused on the U.S. Federal Reserve, although expectations for a decisive move to stimulate the economy appear to be waning," said a report from JBC Energy in Vienna.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Toyota recalling 778,000 RAV4 SUVs

DETROIT (AP)—Toyota Motor Corp. said Wednesday it's recalling 778,000 RAV4 SUVs and Lexus HS 250h sedans in the U.S. to fix a suspension problem that could cause crashes. The company says if rear suspension nuts aren't tightened properly after a wheel alignment, the arms can rust and separate from the vehicle. Toyota reported nine crashes and three minor injuries from the problem. RAV4s from the 2006 to 2011 model years are covered by the recall. The Lexus sedans are from 2010 only.

Strong dollar chips away at MasterCard's revenue

NEW YORK (AP)—The strong U.S. dollar swallowed a chunk of MasterCard's earnings from overseas, leading to revenue growth that was slower than investors were hoping for. MasterCard on Wednesday reported a 9 percent increase in revenue for the second quarter to $1.82 billion compared with the same three-month period a year earlier. That fell short of the $1.88 billion Wall Street analysts were expecting. Analysts saw the slowdown as a worrisome sign for a company which has been on a tear for two years.

Chile bans marketing of toys in children's food

SANTIAGO, Chile (AP)—McDonald's, Burger King, KFC and other fast-food companies are being accused in Chile of violating the country's new law against including toys with children's meals. These and other companies are knowingly endangering the health of children by marketing kids' meals with toys more than a month after the law took effect on June 7, Sen. Giudo Gerardi said as he filed a formal complaint Wednesday seeking a health ministry investigation. Gerardi said he's also targeting the makers of cereal, popsicles and other products that are sold with toys, crayons or stickers as a way to attract children, as well as the markets where these foods are sold.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
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Benigno R. Fitial
Governor

Eloy S. Inos
Lt. Governor

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC
This ad is paid for by NMHC funds.

Notice is hereby given that the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) is the agency authorized to allocate Low Incoming Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC) in the CNMI. The United States 1986 Tax Reform Act created the federal low-income housing tax credit program under Section 42 of the Internal Revenue Code (Code) to assist with the development of low-income rental housing by providing qualified owners with credit to offset their federal tax obligations. The LIHTC is available to owners/developers of qualifying buildings and projects that meet certain low-income occupancy and rent restrictions.

Section 42 of the Code provides that the CNMI prepare a Qualified Allocation Plan (QAP) to determine housing priorities and to give preference to projects serving the lowest income tenants and projects obligated to serve qualified tenants for the longest periods. The QAP must incorporate selection criteria, which includes project location, housing need characteristics, sponsor characteristics, tenant populations with special needs, and public housing waiting lists.

NMHC has developed a QAP and is available at NMHC's office. The QAP describes the basis that NMHC will use to allocate LIHTCs. NMHC may allocate **$2,525,000.00** in LIHTCs for the 2012 program year.

Application for LIHTCs

Owners/Developers wishing to apply for the LIHTCs should obtain and complete a LIHTC Application. The LIHTC Application may be obtained from NMHC's Office in Garapan, Saipan, MP 96950.

Owners/Developers must file the completed LIHTC Application along with the **$1,000.00 Application Fee** in NMHC's Office by the Application Deadline of **4:30 pm, September 14, 2012.** NMHC staff will review the application and will notify the Owner/Developer of any deficiencies by 15 days time or **September 29, 2012**. The owner/developer will be given 14 days to correct any deficiencies. Any corrections or supplemental information requested by NMHC must be received by **October 15, 2012**. The projects will be scored and recommendations made to the NMHC Board of Directors for approval at its **October or November 2012** Board Meeting.

Notification of Awards

NMHC will notify Owners/Developers of the projects receiving LIHTCs thirty (30) days following the October or November 2012 Board of Directors meeting. The reservation letter must be signed and returned to NMHC by no later than thirty (30) days from the date of notification.

For more information on this program, please contact NMHC at 234-6866/7670/7689/9447.

/s/ **JESSE S. PALACIOS**
Acting Corporate Director

NMHC will make necessary arrangements for persons with disabilities or persons requiring interpreters upon prior notification. Should you require such arrangements, please contact Ms. Jocelyn Kaipat at telephone numbers 234-6866/7670/7689/9447.

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COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel.: (670) 664-2375 • Fax: (670) 664-2408

INVITATION TO BID
ITB12-GOV-096

Renovation of Building "K", Northern Marianas College, As-Terlaje Hill, Saipan

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Office, are soliciting sealed bids for the Renovation work at NMC Campus located at As-Terlaje Hill, Saipan,Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project package will be available on July 25, 2012 at the Governor's CIP Office, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building on Capitol Hill. A non-refundable payment of $50.00 is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the CIP Office on Capitol Hill. All interested bidders are required to include an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC should be obtained at the Department of Commerce, Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, as revised through May 24, 2001. Public Law 15-95 Local Preference Act, as ammended by Public Law 15-118 does not apply to this Federally funded project. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

A MANDATORY one time site visit, pre-bid meeting will be held at the NMC Campus, Procurement Office Building L, on August 1, 2012. Interested companies who do not attend the mandatory pre-bid meeting will be disqualified from the bidding process. Participants are required to meet promptly at Building K at 2:00 p.m. Questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing to Ms. Elizabeth Balajadia, CIP Project Manager, CIP Office, Capitol Hill, Saipan or fax to (670) 664-2408 no later than 4:00 p.m. time, August 8, 2012.

Sealed bids must be marked "ITB12-GOV-096". For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. local time (ChST), August 27, 2012. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. local time (ChST) August 27, 2012, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than August 27, 2012 and must be received no later than September 3, 2012. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. local time (ChST), September 4, 2012. However, if no notices of intent to bid are received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will open at 10:30 a.m. local time (ChST), on August 27, 2012.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars ($25,000.00), a bid bond of fifteen percent (15 %) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. This security may be a Certified Check, Cashier's Check or Bid Bond. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". Surety companies must hold a certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General.

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 3-301. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price. The surety company providing the Performance and Payment bonds must be authorized to conduct business in the CNMI and possess unencumbered assets equal to the penal amount of each bond. Performance time for completion of this project is Two Hundred Seventy (270) calendar days upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. The daily amount of liquidated damages shall be greater of (i) Two Hundred Fifty dollars ($250.00), or (ii) two percent (2%) of the contract price divided by Two Hundred Seventy (270) calendar days, the contract time and will be accessed as delays beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Nation

Obama casts Romney as proponent of tax hikes

AKRON, Ohio (AP)—President Barack Obama made his rival's personal millions a front-and-center issue in the race for the White House on Wednesday, telling a swing-state audience that Mitt Romney "is asking you to pay more so that people like him can get a big tax cut."

"In order to afford just one $250,000 tax cut for somebody like Mr. Romney, 125 families like yours would have to pay another $2,000 in taxes each and every year," Obama added, citing a report that his opponent's aides immediately denounced as deeply flawed.

The president leveled his charge as Romney, back from an overseas trip, looked ahead to an intensive campaign stretch that will culminate in his selection of a vice presidential running mate as early as next week and the Republican National Convention at month's end.

There were hints that Republicans might soon seek to expand the political playing field into Pennsylvania, Michigan and Wisconsin, states that traditionally vote Democratic in a presidential race. Campaign activity has been relatively modest in all three since the end of the GOP primaries.

Officials familiar with campaign advertising said Restore our Future, a super Pac aligned with the former Massachusetts governor, is airing television ads in all three states that retrace Romney's successful stewardship of the 2002 Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City. "After Sept.11, Romney delivered the Olympics safe and sound," the announcer says, referring to the aftermath of the terrorist attacks of more than a decade ago.

The ad makes no mention of Obama, and appears designed to give viewers a positive, initial impression of a candidate they may not know much about—the type of commercial that often serves as an introduction to a longer campaign effort.

Obama's trip to Ohio was the ninth in his drive for re-election, signifying the importance of a state he carried in 2008 and where more money has been spent on ads than in any other this year. No Republican has ever captured the White House without carrying Ohio.

AP

President Barack Obama speaks at the John S. Knight Center Wednesday, Aug. 1, 2012, in Akron, Ohio.

Cruz's Texas victory shows tea party staying power

WASHINGTON (AP)—Ted Cruz's Senate primary victory in Texas will provide a boost for tea party-backed, no-compromise conservatives in Congress.

His all-but-sure win in November will increase the number of tea party-aligned senators to six, and as many as seven more could win election. That will ensure a bigger impact on both politics and policy on Capitol Hill, even if Democrats manage to retain a Senate majority and the White House.

Dozens of tea party-supported candidates won House seats two years ago, but only four were elected to the Senate: Marco Rubio of Florida, Ron Johnson of Wisconsin, Rand Paul of Kentucky and Mike Lee of Utah. They joined South Carolina Sen. Jim DeMint, an ideological godfather of a movement born in the aftermath of Congress enacting President Barack Obama's health care overhaul two years ago.

As a result of those small numbers, the tea party's impact in the Senate has been less than in the House—for both parties.

Republicans speak optimistically of possibly taking Senate control—though Cruz will take a safely Republican seat—and most GOP senators tout their own conservative credentials. But Senate Republican leader Mitch McConnell has generally not had to contend with conservative insurrections, while House Speaker John Boehner regularly faces fierce resistance from blocks of conservatives at the mere mention of compromise with Democrats.

ACROSS THE NATION

Half of US counties now considered disaster areas

ST. LOUIS (AP)—Nearly 220 counties in a dozen drought-stricken states were added Wednesday to the U.S. government's list of natural disaster areas as the nation's agriculture chief unveiled new help for frustrated, cash-strapped farmers and ranchers grappling with extreme dryness and heat. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's addition of the 218 counties means that more than half of all U.S. counties—1,584 in 32 states—have been designated primary disaster areas this growing season, the vast majority of them mired in a drought that's considered the worst in decades. Counties in Arkansas, Georgia, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Mississippi, Nebraska, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Tennessee and Wyoming were included in Wednesday's announcement. The USDA uses the weekly U.S. Drought Monitor to help decide which counties to deem disaster areas, which makes farmers and ranchers eligible for federal aid, including low-interest emergency loans.

Lawyer: Sandusky upset over Penn State sanctions

HARRISBURG, Pa. (AP)—Jerry Sandusky is distraught over the NCAA penalties issued to Penn State's football program for the school's handling of his child sexual abuse scandal and maintains his innocence as he awaits sentencing, his defense lawyer said Wednesday. Attorney Joe Amendola told The Associated Press in a phone interview that Sandusky told him that even if people believe he is guilty of the crimes for which he was convicted in June, it would be "ridiculous" to think Penn State administrators engaged in a cover-up. The NCAA imposed a multi-year bowl ban on Penn State, invalidated 112 wins, fined the school $60 million and took away future scholarships. The university leadership said the alternative could have been a complete ban on playing games and has acquiesced to the penalties. Wednesday, the NCAA announced it had picked former U.S. Sen. George Mitchell of Maine to monitor Penn State's compliance with the sanctions.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
2nd Floor Joeten Commercial Building, Gualo Rai
Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION FOR BIDS
DPW12-IFB-011

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids proposal for the ***Repair and Renovation of Tanapag Social Hall***, Saipan Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after August 03, 2012 at the Department of Public Works, Technical Services Division, 1353 Mednilla Avenue-Capital Hill, Saipan. A non-refundable payment of One Hundred Fifty Dollars ($100.00) is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the DPW Technical Services Division. All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001. ***Preference is available to US Citizens as per Public Law 15-95 and as further amended by PublicLaw 15-118, and must be submitted with the BID of preference is claimed.***

There will be a ***Pre-bid Conference*** for this project on August 20, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. local time at the Project Site, Tanapag Social Area, Tanapag Village, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on August 24, 2012 to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director, Technical Services Division**, DPW Bldg. #1353 Mednilla Avenue, or fax to (670) 234-3547.

Sealed bids must be marked **"DPW12-IFB-011"**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. local time August 28, 2012. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. local time August 28, 2012, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than August 28, 2012, and must be received no later than September 06, 2012. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 9:30 a.m. local time, September 10, 2012, However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 10:00 a.m. local time, on August 31, 2012.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars **($25,000.00)** a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. Bid security may be a Certified Check, Cashier's Check or Bid Bond. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 3-301. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than $25,000.00. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

a) A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond In the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Island, and

b) Under penalty of perjury, a certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceeds the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:

1) Cash
2) US Government Securities
3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payments or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond

Performance time for completion of this project is Ninety (90) calendar days upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages will be assessed at One Hundred Dollars (US $100.00) per calendar day for delays beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not effect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ VICENTE B.CASTRO
Acting Secretary of Public Works

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director Procurement and Supply

Legislative Bureau
NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE
P.O. BOX 500586 SAIPAN, MP 96950

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Examination Announcement Number: LB-JVA-12-005
PL-UNGRADED: $899.77 B/W
The salary will be determined by the qualification of the appointee
Location: Honorable Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building (CNMI Legislature), Capitol Hill, Saipan
Position: Sergeant at Arms
Opening Date: August 3, 2012
Closing Date: August 17, 2012

Duties and Responsibilities:
1. Responsible for the safety & security of members of the legislative house he or she is assigned to;
2. Attends all sessions, public hearings and any other legislative meeting as designated by the Presiding Officer of the house to which he or she is assigned;
3. Records and maintains the Chamber's legislative meetings as scheduled by the house to which he or she is assigned and maintains order and security during sessions and meetings;
4. Delivers official documents, serves subpoenas, and performs other duties as instructed by the Presiding Officer, official rules, or other legislative authority of the house to which he or she is assigned;
5. Prepares the chamber prior to scheduled legislative meetings and maintains its security during the interim;
6. Inspects and operates the chamber's sound system and responsible for the maintenance of the chamber;
7. Records and maintains visitor's log sheet on a daily basis;
8. Arrives no later than 7:30 AM to insure the security of the building for the start of every business day as well after working hours;
9. Alternate hours may be arranged regularly work past normal hours; and
10. Performs other duties as assigned.

Qualifications and Requirements:
- Possess two years relevant work experience or a minimum of an AA or AS degree or higher from a United States accredited institution of higher education;
- Maintains good moral conduct;
- Is willing to regularly work after normal working hours

Education requirements may be substituted with related experience

Education and training claimed under item 19(A) through 19(F) of the Application for Employment must be substantiated by a copy of an official diploma and/or certificate. Failure to provide the required documents will result in automatic disqualification.

Employment application may be accessed at www.cnmileg.gov.mp or may be picked up at the Office of the Director of the Legislative Bureau located at the Honorable Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building (CNMI Legislature), Capitol Hill, Saipan. Completed application and police clearance may be submitted to the Office of the Director or may be mailed to the Office of the Director; Legislative Bureau; P.O. Box 500586; Saipan, MP 96950. No telephone inquiries.

Legislative Bureau
NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE
P.O. BOX 500586 SAIPAN, MP 96950

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Examination Announcement Number: LB-JVA-12-006
PL-UNGRADED: $671.42 B/W
The salary will be determined by the qualification of the appointee
Location: Honorable Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building (CNMI Legislature), Capitol Hill, Saipan
Position: Web Content Editor / Systems Technician
Opening Date: August 3, 2012
Closing Date: August 17, 2012

Duties and Responsibilities:
1. Updates the CNMI Legislative website not limited to status tables, calendar, agenda, journals, and legislative documents and information;
2. Operates personal computer;
3. Maintains the Legislature's website;
4. Converts legislative documents to Adobe PDF file format or electronic media format as required;
5. Archiving of legislative electronic files;
6. Manage legislative email accounts;
7. Maintain the legislature's local area network;
8. Install upgrades and troubleshoots Windows operating systems as well as category 5 cables and switches;
9. Assist legislative and Bureau staff on network and computer-related matters
10. Recommend and upgrade technological needs of the Legislature;
11. Performs other duties as assigned.

Qualifications and Requirements:
- Possess two years relevant work experience or a minimum of an AA or AS degree in Computer Applications or higher from a United States accredited institution of higher education;
- Excellent organizational, analytical, and time management skills, detailed-oriented and ability to multi-task;
- Basic knowledge of HTML;
- Proficiencies in Windows Operating Systems, Microsoft Word and spreadsheet applications.

Education requirements may be substituted with related experience

Education and training claimed under item 19(A) through 19(F) of the Application for Employment must be substantiated by a copy of an official diploma and/or certificate. Failure to provide the required documents will result in automatic disqualification.

Employment application may be accessed at www.cnmileg.gov.mp or may be picked up at the Office of the Director of the Legislative Bureau located at the Honorable Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building (CNMI Legislature), Capitol Hill, Saipan. Completed application and police clearance may be submitted to the Office of the Director or may be mailed to the Office of the Director; Legislative Bureau; P.O. Box 500586; Saipan, MP 96950. No telephone inquiries.

Asia

Torrential rains batter Taiwan ahead of typhoon

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP)—Torrential rains from an approaching typhoon battered eastern Taiwan on Wednesday after killing at least 14 people and displacing 154,000 in the Philippines.

At least one death in Taiwan was reported. Local media said a falling tree killed a woman near the southern city of Kaohsiung.

Typhoon Saola was about 160 kilometers (100 miles) east of the coastal city of Hualien in the afternoon and had sustained winds of 137 kph (86 mph) and gusts of 173 kph (109 mph). It was moving slowly but growing stronger and was expected to continue to strengthen.

Taiwan's Central Weather Bureau predicted it would skirt the island's northeast tip early Thursday afternoon.

Parts of northeastern Taiwan already reported rainfall of close to 900 mm (30 inches) by Wednesday afternoon, while the CWB said about one-third of that amount had fallen in suburban Taipei. It could dump more than 1,500 mm (59 inches) of rain in northern Taiwan before moving westward toward the Chinese coast late Thursday.

A major east coast highway was closed because of the typhoon and several hundred people were evacuated from low-lying areas, as mudslides blocked roads and choked off transportation. A river in Ilan county flooded its banks, inundating hundreds of hectares (acres) of nearby rice paddies.

The Defense Ministry mobilized 48,000 soldiers to help mitigate the storm's impact, dispatching many to help hard-pressed farmers try to save threatened fruit and vegetable harvests.

Dozens of flights were canceled at Taipei's main international airport, and the city was expected to come to a virtual standstill Thursday.

The typhoon left at least 14 people dead in the Philippines since Sunday and caused 154,000 to flee their homes.

AP

A woman reacts upon her umbrella was damaged by strong winds from an approaching typhoon in Taipei, Taiwan, Wednesday, Aug. 1, 2012.

DEATH AND FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT

In Loving Memory of

U.S. Army Specialist

Hanson Sangalang Mendiola

Lovingly known as *"Grindaman"*

Born to life on March 18, 1983 and was
called to eternal rest on July 22, 2012

His Memories Will Forever Live In The Hearts of His:
Parents: Francisco Barcinas & Erlinda Sangalang Mendiola
Siblings: Leveriza Mae S. Mendiola, Nara S. Mendiola, Francisco S. Mendiola, Jr.
Grandparent: Felix L. Sangalang

In His New Life He Now Joins His:
Grandparents: Remedios Celestino Sangalang; Fritz Angoco &
Francisca Barcinas Mendiola

Holy Rosary is being said nightly at 8pm at the San Jose Parish Church, Tinian.

On Saturday, August 4, 2012 his remains will arrive at 3:30pm at the Tinian Airport.

On Monday, August 6, 2012, a Wake will be held at 6 pm at the residence
of Francisco B. & Erlinda S. Mendiola in Marpo Valley, Tinian.

On Tuesday, August 7, 2012, viewing will begin at 8am at the San Jose Parish Church,
Tinian, followed by the Mass of Christan Burial at 10:30am.

Your thoughts and prayers are greatly appreciated

Si Yu'us Ma'ase - Thank You
The Family

Indian businesses weather blackouts, but at a cost

GHAZIABAD, India (AP)—Work making potato chip display racks at Jayraj Kumar's factory barely paused when much of India's power grid collapsed.

The backup generators kicked in automatically and the electric saws, presses and welding machines kept running, just like they do during the five-hour power cuts the factory in suburban Delhi suffers nearly every day.

India's unreliable power system has forced businesses to create a workaround electricity system of noisy, dirty diesel generators that prepared them well when the world's worst blackout hit the country Tuesday.

But the trouble has also vastly increased businesses's expenses, dragged down their productivity and hampered economic growth in the country.

``Running a factory is very tough here,'' Kumar said.

Power Minister Veerappa Moily said Wednesday the government would not allow a recurrence of the massive power outages. On Monday, 370 million people lost power for hours when the northern grid collapsed. On Tuesday, 620 million had no electricity after the grid collapsed again, dragging down two neighboring grids.

Moily said an investigation had begun and while he said he didn't want to cast blame yet, he cautioned states not to take more than their allotted power. "If they overdraw, this is the result. They can see for themselves. The entire grid will go black," he said.

The government needed to investigate ways to resolve the disparity between supply and demand, perhaps with congestion pricing, plugging leaks in the distribution system and bringing more power plants on line, he said.

Hundreds of millions of Indians have no access to electricity anyway. Many who do were insulated from the blackouts' effect by the coping systems they use to handle the smaller power cuts that are routine across the country.

ASIAN BRIEFS

North Korea reports 31 more deaths from downpours

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—North Korea says dozens more people have been killed or reported missing because of heavy rainfall this week. The announcement Wednesday comes a day after U.N. staff visited storm-pounded areas to assess damage and investigate the needs of flood victims. Earlier rains killed 88 and left more than 60,000 others homeless. Before the downpours, North Korea suffered a severe drought. The country's official Korean Central News Agency says heavy rain that hit western and eastern coastal areas on Sunday and Monday killed 31 and left 16 others missing.

Human rights group cites 'atrocities' in Myanmar

SITTWE, Myanmar (AP)—A human rights group said Myanmar government forces opened fire on crowds of ethnic Rohingya in a targeted campaign of violence during recent sectarian strife, as a U.N. envoy visited the area Wednesday to investigate the unrest. New York-based Human Rights Watch called for a strong international response to "atrocities" committed during fighting in June between Rakhine Buddhists and Muslim Rohingya. The violence in western Myanmar that left at least 78 people dead has subsided but many tens of thousands remain homeless—mostly Rohingya in need of food, shelter and medical care. The official spokesman for Rakhine state rejected the group's criticism of the government's response to the violence.

World

Where's Assad? Mystery deepens about Syrian leader

BEIRUT (AP)—Syrian President Bashar Assad urged his military Wednesday to boost its fight against rebels, but his written call to arms only deepened a mystery over his whereabouts two weeks after a bomb penetrated his inner circle.

Assad has not spoken publicly since the July 18 bombing killed four of his top security officials—including his brother-in-law—during a rebel assault on the capital, Damascus. The president's low profile has raised questions about whether he fears for his personal safety as the civil war escalates dramatically.

The United States called the Syrian president a coward for marshaling his forces from the pages of the army's official magazine.

"We think it's cowardly, quite frankly, to have a man hiding out of sight, exhorting his armed forces to continue to slaughter the civilians of his own country," said U.S. State Department spokesman Patrick Ventrell.

Sausan Ghosheh, the spokeswoman for the U.N. mission in Syria, said Wednesday that international observers witnessed warplanes firing in Aleppo, Syria's largest city, where intense fighting has been raging for 12 days.

Speaking to reporters in Damascus, Ghosheh said the situation in Aleppo was dire.

"Yesterday, for the first time, our observers saw firing from a fighter aircraft. We also now have confirmation that the opposition is in a position of having heavy weapons, including tanks," she said, adding that for civilians, there "is a shortage of food, fuel, water and gas."

The U.N.'s World Food Program said it was sending enough emergency food aid for 28,000 people in the city of 3 million. The U.N. has estimated that some 200,000 residents have fled Aleppo.

On Wednesday, a Ukrainian military plane evacuated from Aleppo dozens of Ukrainians and Polish women with their children and in some cases Syrian husbands.

AP

This image made from amateur video released by the Ugarit News and accessed Tuesday, July 31, 2012, purports to show black smoke rising from buildings in Aleppo, Syria.

WORLD BRIEFS

Hamas blasts Palestinian official's Auschwitz trip

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP)—Gaza's ruling Hamas has criticized a Palestinian official for visiting a memorial at the Nazi death camp of Auschwitz and paying respects to its 1.5 million victims there, most of them Jews. Hamas official Fawzi Barhoum, expressing the Islamic militant group's position, claimed Wednesday that the Holocaust "is a big lie." He said last week's visit to the Auschwitz by Ziad al-Bandak, an adviser to Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, went against Palestinian public opinion. Abbas and Hamas are political rivals. Some 6 million Jews were killed in the German Nazi genocide during World War II, including in Auschwitz in Nazi-occupied Poland.

Turkey, Iraqi Kurds to act against Kurdish rebels

ANKARA, Turkey (AP)—Turkey and Iraq's autonomous Kurdish region have said in a rare joint statement that they will tackle any threat from a violent group or organization that exploits the power vacuum in Syria, an apparent reference to Kurdish rebels in Turkey and Syria. Turkey launched a military drill Wednesday just across the border from a Syrian town it claims is controlled by Kurdish rebels—a show of muscle aimed at Kurdish separatists pushing for autonomy within Turkey's borders. The Turkish government last week said Turkish Kurdish rebels have seized control of five towns along the border in collaboration with Syria's Democratic Union Party, or PYD- an ethnic Kurdish grouping. Turkey alleges that many of the rebels migrated to civil-war engulfed Syria from bases in northern Iraq.

Late Cuban dissident's family doubts crash report

HAVANA (AP)—The family of late Cuban dissident Oswaldo Paya cast doubt on the official explanation of the car crash that killed him and another government opponent, asking the international community Wednesday for help getting an independent investigation. Speaking to foreign journalists at the family home in Havana, Paya's widow said she can't trust the same authorities who have monitored and harassed her family and other dissidents. "We do not accept the explanation of what happened that was aired on television," Ofelia Acevedo said. She spoke a day after Cuban authorities, who call the small opposition "counterrevolutionaries" and "mercenaries" paid by the U.S. government and anti-Castro Cuban exiles, announced that a Spanish man was being charged with vehicular manslaughter in connection with the crash.

Panetta asks Israel for patience on Iran

JERUSALEM (AP)—Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, standing next to the U.S. defense chief, said Wednesday without qualification that international economic sanctions have had no effect on Iran's nuclear program and suggested Israeli patience was wearing thin, a statement that amounted to an indictment of President Barack Obama's policy toward the Islamic republic.

Netanyahu dismissed U.S. Defense Secretary Leon Panetta's assurances that the United States shared its goal of a non-nuclear Iran, saying the central features of Washington's strategy for stopping the Islamic republic's nuclear ambitions—sanctions and diplomacy—were perilously close to failure. Netanyahu did not explicitly threaten to attack Iran, but that was the unspoken implication of his assertion that all non-military measures have proven ineffective in persuading Iran to change its course.

"Right now the Iranian regime believes that the international community does not have the will to stop its nuclear program," Netanyahu said. "This must change, and it must change quickly because time to resolve this issue peacefully is running out."

His message was particularly striking, given that he delivered it beside Panetta, who spent two days in Israel offering reassurances that the two allies shared the same goals on Iran.

In Celebration of His New Life

†Francisco Roberto Quitano

Born to life on September 30, 1931 • Was called to his Eternal rest on July 30, 2012

His Loving Memories Will Forever Live In The Hearts of His:

Wife: Victoria Cepeda Quitano

Children and Grandchildren: William Cepeda Quitano/Terry (Jasmer and Sherry, Dustin Dean and Valerie, Dwight Don and Dayna, Billy, Munny, Manuel, Delmar, Celeste, Natasha, Charita)
Mae Quitano and Glenn Wade Dikito (Glenn Wade Jr. and Nam, Juan Domingo and Shercy, Lawrence Kalani, Brandon Jude and Jonisha)
Pilar Quitano and Joseph C. Lizama (Shirley Jean and Bruce Norita, Jude Thaddeus and Welma, Janine and Billy Joe Camacho, Jazmin and Angelo Marchadesch, Janica and Lamarc Iguel)
Manuel Cepeda and Orpha C. Quitano (Donovan Jacob and Sophia, Nathan Jonathan and Yuka, Vincent, Xiva)

He will be greatly missed by numerous great grandchildren

Brothers and Sisters and In-Laws: †Jose Roberto Quitano and †Maria Quitano, Elena Quitano Sablan and †Pedro Sablan, Justa Quitano Camacho and †Vidal Camacho, †Angela Quitano Palacios and †Jose Palacios

†Calistro S. and Eugenia C. Cepeda, Victorino S. and Marcy P. Cepeda, Estella S. Cepeda, Dolores Aguon and David Eagle

He will also be missed by families and friends, nieces, nephews, cousins and godchildren.

In His New Life, He Now Joins His:
Parents: Manuel Concepcion Quitano and Rita Roberto Quitano
Parents In-Law: Juan Blas Cepeda, Soledad Sablan Aguon and Jose Cruz Aguon
Son: Fernando Cepeda Quitano
Sister: Pilar Roberto Quitano

Daily Mass of Intentions are being celebrated at Kristo Rai Church at 6:00am and at Nuestra Senora de Soledad Church in Kagman at 6:00pm follow by Holy Rosary at 7:00pm. On Sunday, August 05, 2012, rosary will be recited after the 9:00am Mass.

Funeral Services will be held on Tuesday, August 07, 2012

Nuestra Senora dela Paz Memorial Chapel
Beach Road, Garapan

7:30am	Holy Rosary
9:00am	Responso Service
9:30am	Funeral Cortege to Nuestra Senora de Soledad, Kagman

Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:00am at Nuestra Senora de Soledad Church in Kagman
Interment Service will follow at Sancturio PAX Memorial Gardens, Kagman, Saipan

Please Join Us in Prayers

Si Yu'us Ma'ase – Thank You

Victoria Cepeda Quitano, Children and Families

Off The Wall

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Police: Woman tried to break into Ohio jail

HAMILTON, Ohio (AP)—Police in southwest Ohio are perplexed about why a woman tried to sneak into a county jail before telling authorities to arrest her. Deputies with the Butler County Sheriff's Office arrested 36-year-old Tiffany R. Hurd on Sunday morning after she was caught trying to climb over a fence into Butler County Jail in Hamilton, near Cincinnati. It happened after jail staff leaving a late-night shift told Hurd to leave the property, but she told them to arrest her. "She was repeatedly told to stop," Sgt. Monte Mayer said. "They couldn't talk her out of it." Deputies asked Hurd to leave numerous times, but she refused and attempted to climb the fence again. That's when police took action. "She got her wish," Mayer said. "It wasn't in a traditional manner."

Police: Drunken man gets into dozing couple's bed

PUTNAM TOWNSHIP, Mich. (AP)—Authorities say a Michigan couple got an unexpected visit from a drunken 27-year-old neighbor who wandered into their cottage and climbed into bed with them. The Livingston County Daily Press & Argus of Howell reports (http://bit.ly/MYJpav) that the man showed up in their Putnam Township bedroom around 3:30 a.m. Sunday. Police say the couple left and called 911, and that officers found the man deeply asleep with his shorts partly down. Police say the intruder said, "This isn't my house," upon waking. He explained he went out drinking nearby after putting his 2- and 4-year-old children to sleep at his own home a few doors down.

Minn. bikini parade falls far short of record

MADISON LAKE, Minn. (AP)—Only an itsy-bitsy, teeny-weeny number of bikini-wearers turned out to strut their stuff in a southern Minnesota town. Organizers had hoped for hundreds of women to march Saturday in what was billed as the World's Largest Bikini Parade. But the number of bikini-wearing women—and a couple of men in bikini tops—at the Paddlefish Days Parade in Madison Lake fell far short of the world record.

In Celebration of Her New Life

Catherine Vivian Flores DeLeon Guerrero

November 25, 1951-July 27, 2012

Lovingly known as "Cat" or "Tating"

was called by Our Almighty Father to eternal rest at the age of 60 years.

In her new life, she now joins her:

Parents: Francisco Duenas "Kabesa" and Maria Torres Flores
Brother: Felix Torres Flores
Grandson: Kyle Ray DeLeon Guerrero Basa
Brothers –in-law: George Untalan Diaz, Edward Mendiola Fleming
Parents-in-law: Joaquin Cabrera and Consolacion Iglesias Deleon Guerrero

Her love and peaceful spirit will live on in the hearts of her:

Husband: Crispin "Kuri" Iglesias DeLeon Guerrero
Children & Spouses: Francine DeAnna DLG. and Raymond N. Basa (Kathleen Renaysha, Kristin Rae); **Crispin "Ping"** F. DeLeon Guerrero, Jr.; **Marlena Colleen** DLG. and Ricky DLG. Ichihara (Relaina Myleen, Kyler Raymond); **Jack Curtis** F. DeLeon Guerrero; **Gina** V. and William LG. Salas (Steven Jude, William Joseph [William Jeremiah], Matthew James, Tara Joy)

Brothers, Sisters, and In-law: Frank "Sonny" T. and Annie DLG. Flores, Jr., & Family; Evelyn F. and +George U. Diaz & Family; John T. and Ladonna R. Flores & Family; Joseph T. and Alva DLC. Flores & Family; Margaret T. Flores & Family; Donald T. and Shirlina DLG. Flores & Family; Rosie F. and Juan L. Takai & Family

Brothers and Sisters-in-law: Alfredo I. and Remedios R. DeLeon Guerrero & Family; Artemio I. and Mercedes SN. DeLeon Guerrero & Family; Delfina DLG. and Mike Sherman & Family (Guam); Rosa DLG. and +Herman Pablo & Family (Guam); Rita O. and Antonio Rivera (San Diego, CA); Jose I. and Susana V. DeLeon Guerrero & Family; Efrain I. and Hilda G. DeLeon Guerrero & Family; Joaquin I. and +Rosita B. DeLeon Guerrero & Family; Winnifreda DLG. and Felix Mendiola & Family (Rota); Lorenzo I. and Sinforosa V. DeLeon Guerrero & Family; Begonia DLG. Cruz & Family; Antonio I. and Lourdes S. DeLeon Guerrero & Family; Jesus I. and Josepha C. Deleon Guerrero & Family; Juan I. and Viola S. DeLeon Guerrero & Family

Brother-in-laws & Sister-in-law: Blas T. Mafnas, Joseph Cruz & Antonia V. Reyes

She is additionally survived by numerous aunties, uncles, nephews, nieces, cousins, and godchildren.

Daily masses of intention are offered at 6:00 a.m. and nightly rosary at 7:00 p.m. at Kristo Rai Church.

On Saturday, August 4, 2012, at 7:30 a.m., our Beloved Catherine will be escorted from the Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation to the Our Lady of Mount Carmel Cathedral for viewing and last respects. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00 a.m., followed by interment at Chalan Kanoa Cemetery.

Your prayers, thoughts and presence are greatly appreciated.

Si Yu'us Ma'ase and Thank You

THE FAMILY

Science & Technology

Avoiding Olympic spoilers is a sport of its own

NEW YORK (AP)—Mandy Hauck turned 25 on Wednesday, but she's avoiding Facebook and her happy birthday messages to steer clear of Olympic spoilers about her favorite sport, fencing.

Hauck has also deleted her iPhone apps for CNN and ESPN, opting for news from the London Games the old-fashioned way, via TV coverage that's time-delayed by NBC for prime time.

The network is making live streams of the action available in real time online. Hauck's hanging tough, though, in favor of doing actual work during the day as the marketing communications manager for a software company in Atlanta, a job that requires her to stay on Twitter while she attempts to stay away from its main page and trending topics.

"I enjoy the experience of sitting with my family and friends in front of the television and cheering for the athletes as if they were competing live," said Hauck, a former college fencer who has been following two-time American gold medalist Mariel Zagunis in London. "It's much more entertaining and enjoyable that way!"

AP

The United States' Mariel Zagunis asks for a ruling in her match against Japan's Seira Nakayama in the women's individual sabre fencing competition at the 2012 Summer Olympics, Wednesday, Aug. 1, 2012, in London.

It's also incredibly difficult with social media in full flower. Olympic spoilers have people turning off phone alerts, hiding their iPads and shushing co-workers in search of simpler times, when screaming at the TV during nail-biting competition was a sport unto itself.

Pervasive spoilers even solicited an apology from NBC's Olympics executive producer, Jim Bell. He tweeted a mea culpa for a Monday night gaffe, when the network ran a "Today" show teaser with swimmer Missy Franklin showing off her gold medal—just before the network aired the race where she won it.

While angry tweeters have taken to—yes, Twitter—to grouse about spoilers, Paul Redfern at Gettysburg College in Pennsylvania has entered what he calls "my Olympic dark period" on social media.

Twitter admits mistake in reporter case

LONDON (AP)—Twitter is acknowledging a mistake in how it handled a tweet by a Los Angeles-based journalist that included the email of the NBC Olympics president.

Alex Macgillivray, general counsel for the social media website, wrote in a blog post Tuesday that the company's team working with NBC for their Olympic partnership "proactively" identified the tweet it said was in violation of its rules and encouraged the network to report it.

"This behavior is not acceptable and undermines the trust our users have in us," Macgillivray wrote. "We should not and cannot be in the business of proactively monitoring and flagging content, no matter who the user is—whether a business partner, celebrity or friend."

Guy Adams, a correspondent for British newspaper The Independent, was upset with NBC's decision to broadcast the opening ceremony on tape delay when he sent his critical tweet Friday afternoon.

"The man responsible for NBC pretending the Olympics haven't started yet is Gary Zenkel. Tell him what u think!" it read, before going on to provide his corporate email listing.

Adams' account was suspended but he said Tuesday it had been reinstated—announcing his return on Twitter of course.

"Oh. My Twitter account appears to have been un-suspended. Did I miss much while I was away?" he posted.

Adams went on to include part of an email where Twitter said the network had retracted its original complaint, leading to the resumption of his account.

TECHNOLOGY BRIEFS

Google buying social-media startup Wildfire

NEW YORK (AP)—Google is buying a company that specializes in social media marketing as it intensifies competition with Facebook for ad dollars and attention. The company, Redwood City, Calif.-based Wildfire, helps businesses such as Cirque du Soleil and Spotify manage social media efforts across the Internet. It's an important area for Google as people spend more time on social networks such as Facebook and as advertisers follow them. Google's social network, Google Plus, hasn't had the traction that Facebook Inc. enjoys. Wildfire will let Google play a role whether the ad campaign is on Google Plus, Facebook, Twitter or elsewhere. Wildfire's co-founders and other staff will join Google Inc. The deal's financial details were not disclosed. In recent months, Oracle Corp. and Salesforce.com Inc. also have reached deals to buy similar startups.

Amazon tops iTunes Match offer with more storage

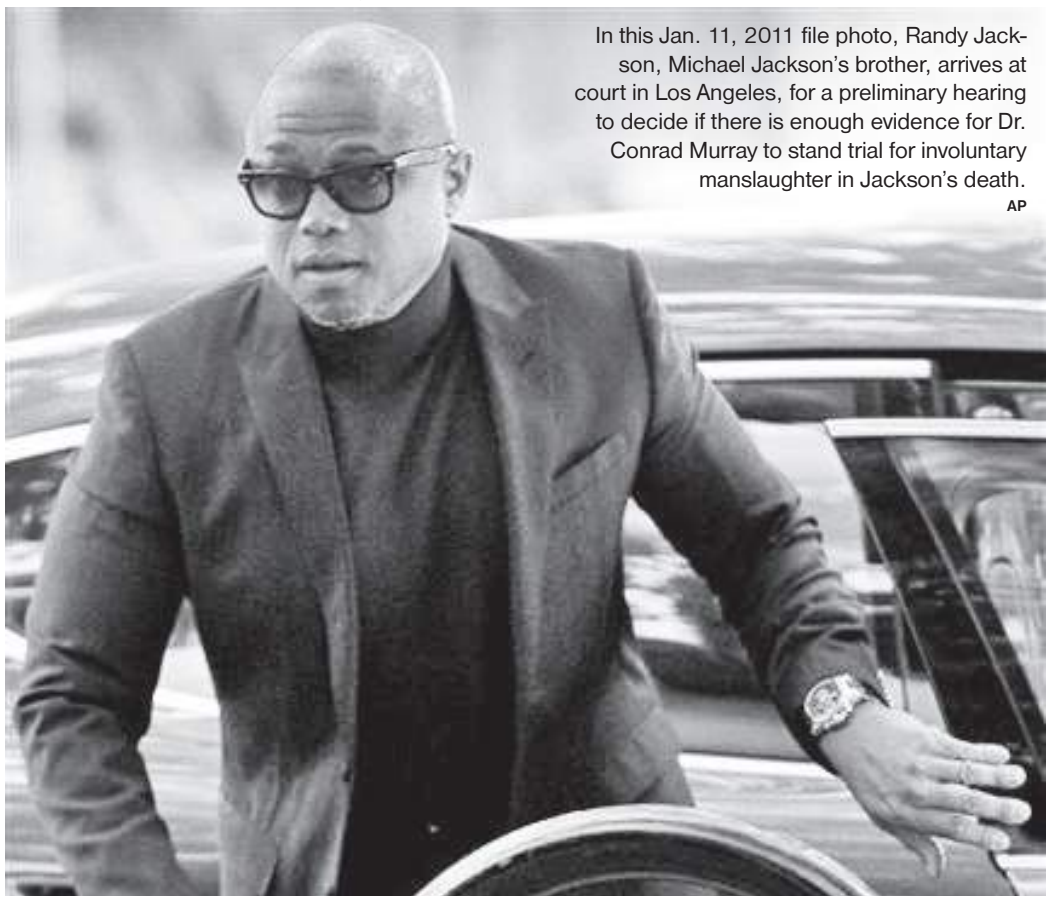
SEATTLE (AP)—Amazon.com Inc. has updated its cloud music player to mimic Apple Inc.'s iTunes Match, but is offering 10 times more storage space for the same price. Songs purchased on Amazon.com have always been stored for free on its servers for playback on mobile devices. Now the online retailer will scan a person's computer and automatically match songs found there on the person's storage space in the cloud. Like iTunes Match, Amazon will upgrade songs of lesser quality found on computers or existing cloud lockers to files encoded at 256 kilobits per second. The price is the same as iTunes Match at $25 a year. But Amazon.com offers free storage for 250 songs bought elsewhere, and will store 250,000 songs for paying customers. ITunes Match tops out at 25,000 songs.

Samsung launches Music Hub in US

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Samsung launched its Music Hub service in the U.S. on Tuesday. It's an effort to capture some of the buzz around Spotify with a feature that combines a cloud music locker, unlimited song streaming, a radio player and a music store. All that costs $10 a month, although song purchases are charged separately. The catch: you need a Samsung Galaxy S III phone to use it. The U.S. launch comes with a 30-day free trial period. Music Hub was introduced in Germany, France, Spain, Italy and Britain in May. The service offers covers a range of services not available now from a single provider.

Life&Style

Michael Jackson's siblings resume attack on will



In this Jan. 11, 2011 file photo, Randy Jackson, Michael Jackson's brother, arrives at court in Los Angeles, for a preliminary hearing to decide if there is enough evidence for Dr. Conrad Murray to stand trial for involuntary manslaughter in Jackson's death.
AP

LOS ANGELES (AP)—More than three years after Michael Jackson's death, his youngest brother continues to raise questions about the validity of the pop superstar's will.

On Twitter and cable TV, Randy Jackson has called the five-page document signed in 2002 a fake. The one place he hasn't made the claims is a courtroom, where legal experts say he faces almost insurmountable hurdles to invalidate the will and stiff odds against ousting the men who run the lucrative estate.

In a recent letter, Randy Jackson and three of his siblings called on Jackson's estate executors to resign and renewed claims that the will is a fake.

The letter states the family was too overwhelmed after the singer's death to meaningfully challenge the will that gave only family matriarch Katherine Jackson and Michael's three children—Prince, 15, Paris, 14, and Blanket, 10—a stake in the estate. "At that time we couldn't possibly fathom what is so obvious to us now: that the Will, without question, it's Fake, Flawed and Fraudulent," the letter originally signed by Randy, Jermaine, Janet and Rebbie Jackson states.

On Wednesday, Jermaine Jackson rescinded his support for the letter and said it never should have been made public.

The delayed challenge likely dooms any effort to invalidate the will. Even if it was thrown out, it would not alter the stake received by the King of Pop's three children, experts say and an appeals court has noted.

Randy Jackson has since posted on Twitter that he believes the estate is trying to isolate his mother to the detriment of her health. "It is my fear and belief, that they are trying to take my mother's life," Randy Jackson wrote last week.

The estate has denied the accusations. "We are saddened that false and defamatory accusations grounded in stale Internet conspiracy theories are now being made by certain members of Michael's family whom he chose to leave out of his will," it wrote in a statement.

Jermaine Jackson said Wednesday he still has concerns about the estate's operations but realizes "the way to address such matters is through the proper channels and via a private dialogue, not public conflict."

Almost from the moment it was filed, the will has been a topic of controversy for some members of the Jackson family. The pop superstar's father Joe Jackson attempted to get a stipend from the estate, but like his children, he was excluded from any share.

Katherine Jackson explored the possibility of challenging the executors and was given permission by a judge but settled before a full hearing was held.

The document is straightforward and simple, and many key provisions of how Jackson's estate is constructed are set out in a trust. That document has never been publicly released.

Many of the misgivings stem from the will's final page, which bears the signatures of three witnesses who claim Michael Jackson signed the document on July 7, 2002, in Los Angeles. Jackson's family points out that the singer was in New York on that day, a point the Rev. Al Sharpton recently bolstered by showing video of the "Thriller" singer appearing with him at an event in Harlem that day.

Jermaine Jackson says he regrets family feud

By ANTHONY McCARTNEY
AP ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

AP
In this Sept. 11, 2009 file photo, Jermaine Jackson, brother of late U.S. "King of Pop" Michael Jackson, is seen during a news conference in Vienna, Austria.

Jermaine Jackson called Wednesday for an end to the public feud that has embroiled his family for more than a week, saying issues over the care of his mother and with late brother Michael's estate should be handled privately.

Jackson wrote in a statement first released to The Associated Press that he regrets the public turmoil that resulted from his mother Katherine's 10-day trip to an Arizona spa. The trip sparked a missing person's report and a driveway confrontation between relatives at the home of Katherine Jackson before a judge stripped her of guardianship duties.

"Mistakes have been made and irrational things have been said on both sides in a highly charged emotional environment," Jermaine Jackson wrote. "It is time for us all to draw a line in the sand and move towards peace, co-operation, love and healing."

The Jackson family is still raw from the death of the pop superstar three years ago, Jermaine Jackson wrote, and his mother has endured incredible stress and pressures since then.

He said he remains concerned about his brother's estate but is dropping support for a letter leaked two weeks ago that called on executors of the estate to resign.

Jermaine Jackson said his statement was prompted after his son asked if he could no longer visit Katherine Jackson at her suburban Calabasas home.

"After much soul-searching, it is clearly time for us to live by Michael's words about love not war," he wrote.

At the request of an attorney for TJ Jackson, temporary guardian of Michael Jackson's children, the estate has acknowledged it has blocked certain relatives from visiting the home. The family members were not named.

Attorneys are still trying to untangle some of the issues that the family dispute has created. Katherine Jackson's attorney Perry Sanders Jr. said attorneys will return to court Thursday to present an agreement to restore his client as a guardian.

The agreement would also call for TJ Jackson to remain a co-guardian, with control over the staff and day-to-day operations of the home where Katherine Jackson and her grandchildren Prince, Paris and Blanket currently live. Sanders has said the arrangement will allow Katherine Jackson to focus on the children's upbringing and not on other financial or logistics issues.

The co-guardianship arrangement would also allow either Katherine Jackson, 82, or TJ Jackson, 34, to serve as sole guardian if the other were no longer able to serve.

Jermaine Jackson's statement offers a detailed account of why he, brother Randy and sisters Janet and Rebbie felt it was necessary to isolate their mother recently.

"We simply worried that a call home would first entail, or lead to, conversations with individuals we are in dispute with and that would, therefore, increase pressure on Mother—and pressure was what a doctor said she didn't need," he wrote.

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Total Recall
Friday and Saturday 1:25 4:25 7:25 9:50
Sunday thru Tuesday 1:25 4:25 7:25
Cast: Colin Farrell, Kate Beckinsale, Jessica Biel
Science, Fiction • Rated PG 13
Synopsis
Underworld's Len Wiseman jumps into the remake game with this retooling of Phillip K. Dick's short story, We Can Remember It for You Wholesale, originally brought to the big screen by Paul Verhoven in the 1990 action/sci-fi eyepopper starring Arnold Schwarzenegger. Colin Farrell stars as a man whose visions of Mars makes him question his own identity. Equilibrium's Kurt Wimmer provides the screenplay.

Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Dog Days
Friday and Saturday 1:00 4:00 7:20 9:40
Sunday thru Tuesday 1:00 4:00 7:20
Cast: Zachary Gordon, Devon Bostick
Children's/family • Rated PG
Synopsis
The oh-so-wimpy Greg Heffley (Zachary Gordon) gets himself into more mischief when he spends the summer working at a country club in this third installation of the Diary of a Wimpy Kid series. David Bowers returns to direct from a script by Maya Forbes and Wally Wolodarsky.

The Watch
Friday and Saturday 1:30 4:30 7:30 10:00
Sunday thru Tuesday 1:30 4:30 7:30
Cast: Ben Stiller, Vince Vaughn, Jonah Hill
Comedy • Rated R

The Dark Knight Rises
Friday and Saturday 12:45 3:55 7:00 10:05
Sunday thru Tuesday 12:45 3:55 7:00
Cast: Christian Bale, Anne Hathaway
Crime, Action • Rated PG 13

The Dark Knight Rises
Friday and Saturday 12:55 4:05 7:10 10:15
Sunday thru Tuesday 12:55 4:05 7:10
Cast: Christian Bale, Michael Caine
Crime, Action • Rated PG 13

Ice Age 4: Continental Drift
Friday and Saturday 1:15 4:15 7:15 9:30
Sunday thru Tuesday 1:15 4:15 7:15
Cast: Ray Romano, John Leguizamo
Children's/family • Rated PG

The Amazing Spider-Man
Friday and Saturday 1:10 4:10 7:05 9:55
Sunday thru Tuesday 1:10 4:10 7:05
Cast: Andrew Garfield, Emma Stone
Action, Fantasy, Drama • Rated PG 13

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Husband's letters to old flame continue to fuel widow's anger

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DearAbby

DEAR ABBY: My husband died recently in a fire he started in a drunken rampage. In the aftermath I am left with feelings of extreme sadness and rage.

Last night I was going through a box of his belongings and found some old letters he had written to a woman he'd left me for 20 years ago. (We patched things up and then were married later.) I didn't want to read them, but in the first letter I caught the sentence, "You are the only woman I've ever met who truly changed me." I immediately tore it to shreds. There were others, but I tossed everything in the box into the trash. I couldn't put myself through the pain.

For months, I have tried to dwell only on the happy times we had together and the love that, in spite of his alcoholism, we had for each other. Perhaps I could have dealt with these letters while my husband was still alive, but now I can only stew in my own anger.

I don't want to do this to myself. I have been in therapy and at Al-Anon, but I feel as though I need other tools at this point to get me through this awfulness.

WIDOW IN ST. LOUIS

DEAR WIDOW: Please accept my condolences for the loss of your husband. I'm sure you have many reasons to be angry, and those letters are among the least of them.

Try to think rationally about what the letter said. That they were in his possession probably means they were never mailed, and it's likely they were written while he was drunk. As to the woman having "changed" him, from the way he died it doesn't appear he changed a lot.

You have your life ahead of you. If you choose to waste your precious time looking back over your shoulder and cursing a dead man, of course that's your choice. But if you want to break this cycle of destructive thinking, the quickest way to do it would be to contact your therapist for a "reality check."

■■■■

DEAR ABBY: My boyfriend and I have lived together for five years. We have decided that we want to get married. He took me to pick out a beautiful ring and put money down to hold the specific ring.

Sounds great, right? Well, it's not. Unfortunately, my boyfriend doesn't have the money for it, which is completely understandable, because it's quite an expensive ring.

Here is my issue: He recently took a significant amount of money out of his 401(k) to pay off a gambling debt. I also received a very large bonus, of which a major portion went to pay the gambling debt. Why would my boyfriend take me to pick out a ring if he knows he can't afford it? Why would he prioritize his gambling debt over a ring for me? For us? For our future?

NOT HIS FIRST PRIORITY

DEAR NOT HIS FIRST PRIORITY: Candidly, your boyfriend probably made the gambling debt his top priority because he was afraid if he didn't someone would beat him to a pulp or worse. Surely by now you have realized that he has a gambling problem and is not good with money. Thank your lucky stars you realized it BEFORE marriage.

You are living with someone who appears to have trouble recognizing there are consequences for his actions. If you want a husband who is mature and responsible, stop enabling him and recognize that this man isn't Mr. Right.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $14 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

'Vertigo' trumps 'Citizen Kane' in critics poll

AP

This undated film image released by Paramount shows Jimmy Stewart, left, and Kim Novak in a scene from Alfred Hitchcock's 1958, "Vertigo."

NEW YORK (AP)—Alfred Hitchcock has finally usurped Orson Welles.

Hitchcock's "Vertigo" took the top spot in the 10 greatest-movies-ever list compiled by Sight & Sound, ending the 50-year run for Welles' "Citizen Kane." The magazine, published by the British Film Institute, surveys international film critics every decade.

"Citizen Kane" slid to second, making way for Hitchcock's 1958 psychological drama starring James Stewart and Kim Novak. "Vertigo" edged "Citizen Kane" by 34 votes in the poll, which gathered lists from 846 critics, programmers, academics and distributors.

"Vertigo" has gradually inched up the poll in recent decades, as Hitchcock's thriller has steadily grown in stature since its initial mixed reception.

The list also includes a new addition: Dziga Vertov's "Man With a Movie Camera," coming in at eighth place. It's the first documentary to make the list since it was founded in 1952.

Yasujiro Ozu's "Tokyo Story" ranked third, followed by Jean Renoir's "The Rules of the Game"; F.W. Murnau's "Sunrise"; Stanley Kubrick's "2001: A Space Odyssey"; and John Ford's "The Searchers." Carl Dreyer's "The Passion of Joan of Arc" ranks ninth followed by Federico Fellini's "8 1/2."

All of the top 10 were made more than 40 years ago.

Tippi Hedren: Hitchcock ruined career, not life

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP)—Tippi Hedren said Wednesday she survived working with Alfred Hitchcock, but her career was another matter.

Hedren's experience on the famed British film director's "The Birds" and "Marnie" is dramatized in the new HBO movie, "The Girl." Hitchcock is portrayed as obsessed with Hedren and vindictive when the actress rejects his advances.

The director "ruined my career, but he didn't ruin my life," Hedren told a meeting of the Television Critics Association. She had to fight to get out of her contract with Hitchcock and lost roles because of it, she said in an interview.

Sienna Miller, who spoke to the Beverly Hills critics' meeting by telephone, plays Hedren and Toby Jones portrays Hitchcock in "The Girl," which debuts Oct. 20 on HBO.

During the session, Miller and Hedren exchanged long-distance pleasantries that apparently referred to a newcomer in Miller's life. According to reports, the 30-year-old actress gave birth to a baby girl, Marlow, in early July.

"How's Marlow?" Hedren asked. "She's screaming upstairs," Miller replied.

AP

Actress Tippi Hedren appears onstage during HBO's TCA panel for "The Girl" at the Beverly Hilton hotel on Wednesday, Aug. 1, 2012, in Beverly Hills, Calif.

Ethel Kennedy: Didn't play Taylor Swift matchmaker

AP

Director Rory Kennedy, left, and Ethel Kennedy appear onstage during HBO's TCA panel for "Ethel" at the Beverly Hilton hotel on Wednesday, Aug. 1, 2012, in Beverly Hills, Calif.

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP)—Ethel Kennedy says she didn't play matchmaker between a grandson and Taylor Swift but the Kennedys would be "lucky" to have the pop star in the family.

Kennedy is the subject of a new HBO documentary. She was asked Wednesday about reports that she set up the 22-year-old pop star and 18-year-old Conor Kennedy. He's the grandson of Ethel Kennedy and the late Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

Ethel Kennedy told the Television Critics Association, "Certainly not." But the 84-year-old added, "We should be so lucky."

Ethel Kennedy's daughter, filmmaker Rory Kennedy, directed and produced the documentary "Ethel." It debuts Oct. 18 on HBO.

Rory Kennedy would confirm only one relationship involving Swift: The one Swift has with the Kennedy family.

Rory Kennedy said Swift is a "great friend of all of ours."

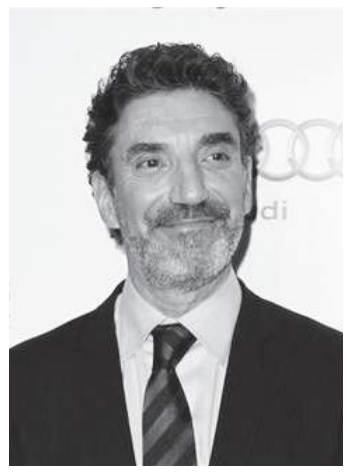
'Two and a Half Men' creator Lorre to publish book

NEW YORK (AP)—Fans of Chuck Lorre's vanity cards, which appear at the end of his TV shows, will no longer have to hit pause on their DVRs to study his vanity cards.

Lorre, who writes, produces and is a co-creator of sitcoms such as "Two and a Half Men," "The Big Bang Theory" and "Mike and Molly," is publishing a coffee-table book of the cards titled, "What Doesn't Kill Us, Makes Us Bitter."

Vanity cards are the graphics that air for a second or two at the end of his shows. The cards are often political, biting and even controversial. Chuck Lorre Productions has a website dedicated to their archives.

The book will be published by Simon & Schuster, a division of CBS Corp., in October.



This March 1, 2012 file photo shows honoree Chuck Lorre at the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences 21st Annual Hall of Fame Gala in Beverly Hills, Calif.

AP

AP

In this July 30, 2009 file photo, creator and executive producer Larry David speaks during the HBO panel for "Curb Your Enthusiasm" at the Television Critics Association summer press tour in Pasadena, Calif.

Larry David to write, star in movie for HBO

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP)—Larry David is coming back to HBO—but not in a new season of "Curb Your Enthusiasm."

The cable channel told the Television Critics Association on Wednesday that the 65-year-old will write, executively produce and star in an HBO film directed by Greg Mottola. The network didn't announce a title.

Network executives say it's not a "Curb Your Enthusiasm" film, and David won't be playing himself in the movie.

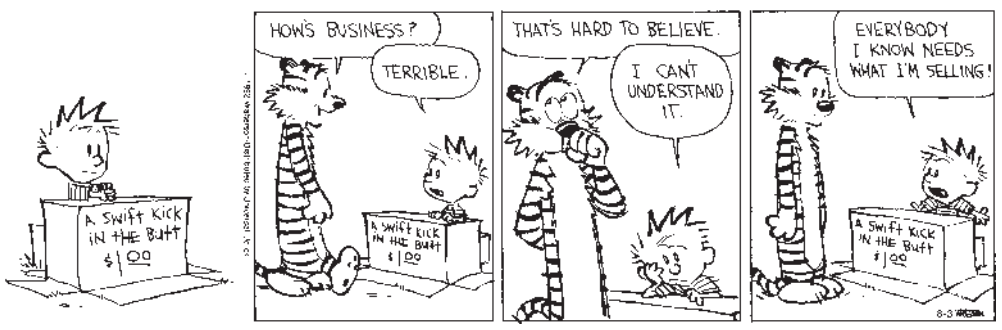
HBO programming president Michael Lombardo says the "Seinfeld" co-creator hasn't "closed the door" on a possible ninth season of "Curb Your Enthusiasm."

HBO has aired eight seasons David's art-imitating-life comedy series since 2000.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


A SWIFT KICK IN THE BUTT $1.00
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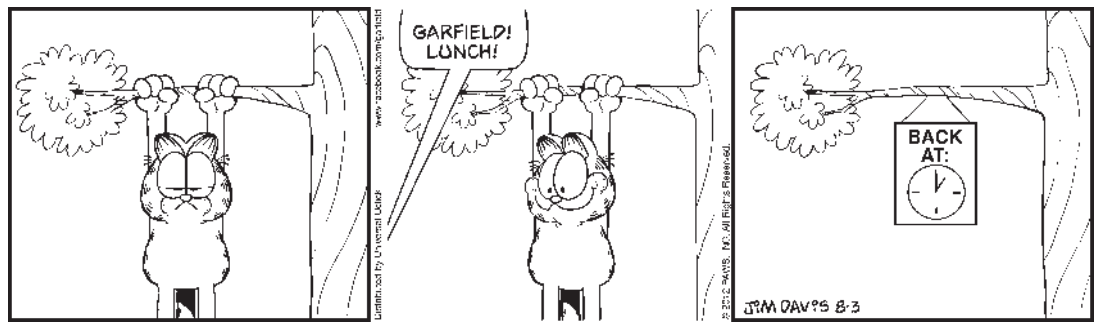
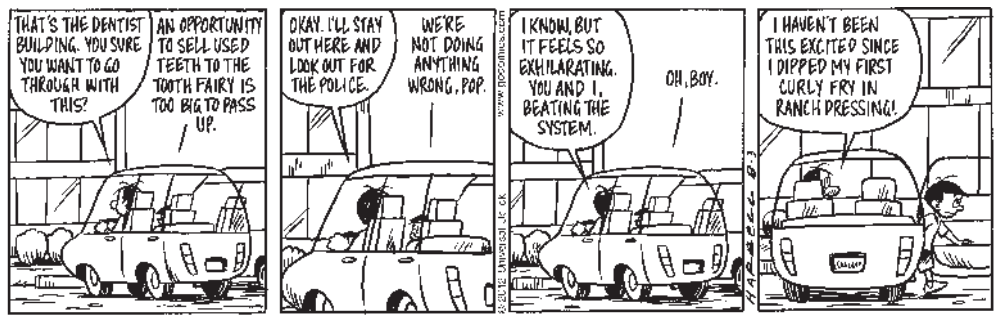
By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


THAT'S THE DENTIST BUILDING. YOU SURE YOU WANT TO GO THROUGH WITH THIS?
AN OPPORTUNITY TO SELL USED TEETH TO THE TOOTH FAIRY IS TOO BIG TO PASS UP.
OKAY. I'LL STAY OUT HERE AND LOOK OUT FOR THE POLICE.
WE'RE NOT DOING ANYTHING WRONG, POP.
I KNOW, BUT IT FEELS SO EXHILARATING. YOU AND I, BEATING THE SYSTEM.
OH, BOY.
I HAVEN'T BEEN THIS EXCITED SINCE I DIPPED MY FIRST CURLY FRY IN RANCH DRESSING!

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

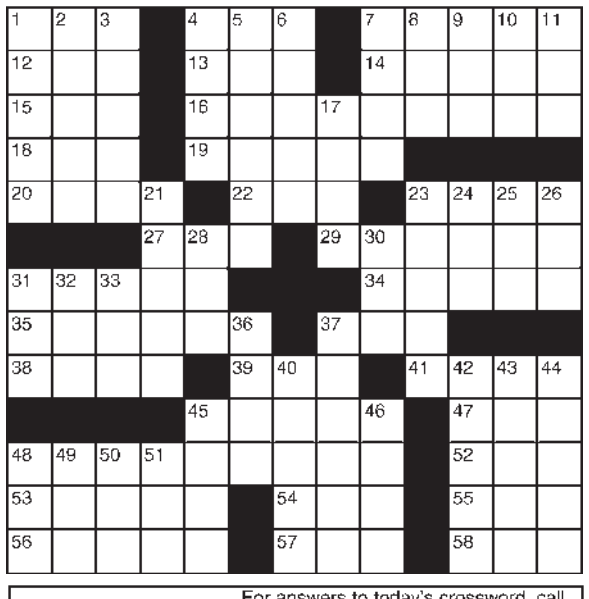
ACROSS
1 Chances, for short
4 Taxi
7 Walk through mud, maybe
12 Shell game need
13 Gorilla
14 Anorak
15 Attempt
16 Greenish-blue deposit on copper
18 "— Impossible"
19 Put forth
20 Eats
22 Schedule abbr.
23 Oil job
27 Mornings (Abbr.)
29 Inspiring horror
31 Supermarket section
34 Playing marble
35 Fodders for mills
37 Speedometer stat
38 Apiece
39 Old card game
41 Deuce topper
45 GIs' alarm clock
47 Ostrich's kin
48 Perfumery fixative
52 Rotating part
53 Measure
54 Type units
55 Intention
56 U-shaped river bend
57 Witness
58 Thickness

DOWN
1 Re 26-Down
2 — Amboy, N.J.
3 Permission
4 Grotto
5 Pinnacles
6 Jaunty chapeau
7 Skewer
8 Trail the pack
9 Hockey legend
10 Tackle moguls
11 Owns
17 Schlep
21 "America's Most Wanted" host
23 Frivolous
24 "Born in the —"
25 Luncheonette order, for short
26 Pupil's place
28 Citi Field athlete
30 Knock
31 Census statistic
32 Playwright Levin
33 [Uncorrected]
36 Punch
37 Illinois city
40 Fairy tale baddies
42 Summarize
43 Cybermessage
44 Delicious
45 Concoct
46 Being (Lat.)
48 Way back when
49 Limit, for short
50 Mac
51 Id counterpart

Solution time: 25 mins.

G	E	L	■	T	U	F	T	■	R	O	U	T
A	L	I	■	A	F	R	O	■	E	R	G	O
L	I	F	E	B	O	A	T	■	F	E	L	L
■	■	E	L	L	■	T	A	B	L	O	I	D
C	O	F	F	E	E	■	L	Y	E	■	■	■
A	G	O	■	T	A	X	■	E	C	L	A	T
P	E	R	K	■	R	I	B	■	T	I	D	E
S	E	M	I	S	■	S	U	P	■	F	O	X
■	■	■	N	A	B	■	D	I	G	E	S	T
P	O	T	S	D	A	M	■	P	A	L	■	■
A	D	A	M	■	L	I	F	E	T	I	M	E
R	I	P	A	■	S	E	A	R	■	N	O	R
D	E	E	N	■	A	N	T	S	■	E	W	E

Yesterday's answer 8-3



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99¢ per minute. touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Ryan Lochte, 28; Evangeline Lilly, 33; Tom Brady, 35; Martin Sheen, 72.

Happy Birthday: Branch out and explore new people, places and activities that will help you expand your mind and awareness. Opportunities that arise through new experiences will lead to fresh plans. Personal and professional partnerships will be at an all-time high and will help you develop a unique and prosperous future. Your numbers are 8, 11, 17, 22, 28, 37, 41.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Follow your dreams. You're in the driver's seat, and as long as you aren't afraid to take action, positive results will be yours. Put time aside for the one you love; if single, socialize and you will meet someone special. ✪✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): You can be nice, but don't let someone make you look bad or hurt your chance to get ahead. Protect your heart and your assets. Your ability to say no will make the difference in the way people treat you. ✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Don't let emotional blackmail make you feel guilty. If someone is giving you ultimatums, walk away. Make decisions based on your needs. A change in lifestyle will improve your health and wellness. Put what you want and need first. Love is highlighted. ✪✪✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Changes at home will add to your comfort and make you feel better about your life. Doing things a little differently will add to your charm and surprise and impress loved ones. A responsibility you take on will result in greater opportunities. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Take care of money matters. Pay down debt, collect money owed to you and enforce a new budget that will get you back on track. Keeping life simple will be the key to a better future. Romance is heading your way. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Look at whatever situation you face from a practical standpoint and you will find a suitable solution. Stick to work projects until you are happy with the results and you will bypass criticism and personal disappointment. Avoid excess. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Traveling, visiting a friend or socializing with people who share the same interest or hobby will lift your spirits and bring you in contact with someone special. A romantic gesture will bring a positive response and a chance to build a better future. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Don't push your plans onto others. If someone doesn't want to participate, move along. You will have to be more accommodating to keep your personal life running smoothly. Home improvements marked by creativity and compromise will be successful. ✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): You'll attract attention and compliments if you are honest and realistic about what you have to offer. You don't have to play games to win; you just have to be yourself. Your fun-loving approach to life will win favors. ✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Focus on your responsibilities before you decide to relax. Keep things simple and within your means. Don't feel obligated to say yes to someone who doesn't deserve your help. An impulsive move will be costly. ✪✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Re-evaluate your current personal and professional partnerships. Discuss your intentions while offering equality and you will find common grounds that will ensure a long-term commitment. Love is in the stars, and greater opportunity is apparent. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Ease into any situation, getting as much information as possible to avoid upsetting anyone unintentionally. Indulgence and aggressive behavior will lead to deception and emotional problems. Honesty and moderation will be key to bypassing trouble. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are astute and charismatic. You are creative, caring and popular.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	5		2					
			4	9	3			6
		1				4		
	1 4			8			8 3	7
2	8						6	
		7				8		
1			5	3	2 7		1	

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 8/03

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

1	7	4	9	5	6	2	8	3
9	2	6	3	7	8	1	4	5
8	3	5	4	2	1	9	7	6
4	8	3	1	6	2	7	5	9
6	5	7	8	9	3	4	2	1
2	1	9	7	4	5	3	6	8
5	4	8	2	3	9	6	1	7
7	9	1	6	8	4	5	3	2
3	6	2	5	1	7	8	9	4

Difficulty Level ★★★

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

JENNIFER LOPEZ **Solution: 8 letters**

T	D	C	E	L	L	H	D	M	A	R	I	B	E	L
D	I	E	E	A	R	A	G	P	S	M	O	D	E	L
E	A	M	T	L	V	I	I	L	T	B	I	L	U	R
S	M	I	Y	I	(I)	L	G	A	I	S	W	T	O	B
E	N	N	D	(C)	M	V	L	Y	L	A	U	O	R	C
O	N	D	(O)	A	L	R	I	S	L	R	L	A	A	S
H	I	(N)	R	S	U	L	E	N	N	F	V	R	I	U
T	A	C	D	O	D	Y	I	A	G	E	S	E	N	O
R	R	O	T	A	E	R	T	H	L	V	N	M	R	E
I	T	C	N	L	E	T	A	R	E	O	I	I	O	C
B	Y	C	E	T	A	L	K	W	E	L	W	X	F	A
E	E	G	S	H	L	Y	N	D	A	P	T	E	I	V
R	N	N	N	S	E	L	Y	T	S	L	S	S	L	R
A	O	A	N	E	L	E	S	O	N	G	O	A	A	U
M	M	A	X	I	M	I	L	I	A	N	C	L	C	C

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Angel Eyes, Awards, Brave, California, Casper, Castlehill, Cell, Color, Cost, Curvaceous, Dancer, David, Deseo, Emme, Floor, Fly Girl, Gigli, Icon, I'm Real, Latin, Lead, Living, Lola, Love, Lynda, Lynn, Maid, Manhattan, Marc, Maribel, Maximilian, Mind, Model, Money Train, Monster-in-Law, Play, Rebirth, Remixes, Selena, Side, Song, Still, Styles, Tour, Twins, U Turn

Yesterday's Answer: Vitamins

THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volume 3 is "Calvin & Volume 3" Now's your chance to get the biggest collection of WonderWord puzzles ever! Only $8.95 plus $4.95 shipping & handling. Send to Universal Uclick Puzzle Store, 1130 Walnut, 5th Floor, WONDERWORD, Kansas City, MO 64106. Or call toll-free 1-800-642-6480. Credit card orders only. Contains 150 puzzles from Volumes 1 & 2 of the 20th Century.

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Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 6-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as $27 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
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• 5-Liner	$24	$39
• 3-Liner with picture	$24	$42
• 5-Liner with picture	$36	$57

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Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:

- All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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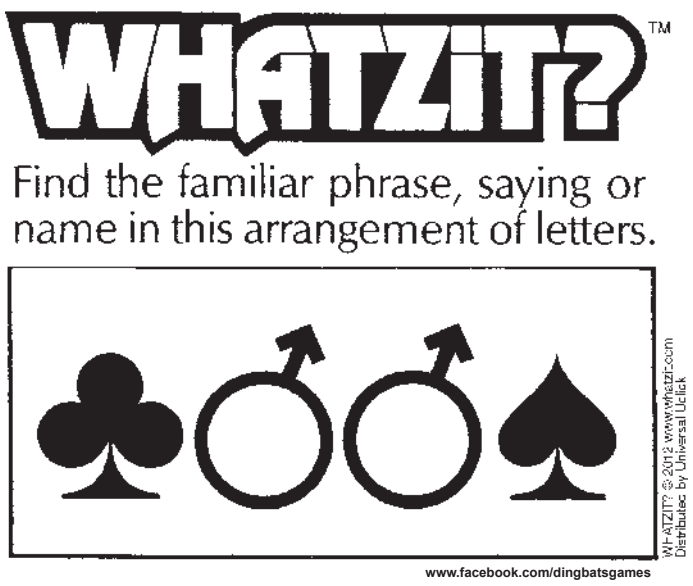
All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.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Only $15 Student Laptop — Restore OS Call for more into.
17" Monitor – FOR SALE
233-5641
Open: MOnday-Saturday 9:00am - 9:00pm

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Starting as low as... $29.99 without Insurance
Call: 233-8855, 483-8866 or 233-8866
$100 Security Deposit Required
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Massage (60 mins) $15.00
Facial Care for $15.00
Manicure & Pedicure starting at $5.00
In front of PIC Z Bldg. • 10:30am - 9:30pm
Tel #s: 888-1354, 234-8855

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CALL: 287-0319

CASH REWARD: $500.00
Car was stolen on Saturday, 7/28/12 in front of Mt. Carmel Church field, across from Payless Supermarket.
YEAR: 2002, **COLOR:** RED
MAKE: TOYOTA, **MODEL:** ECHO
BODY STYLE: 4 DOOR, **LICENSE PLATE:** TAXI1751
IF FOUND PLEASE CALL ABU: 287-2830

WJC Mart
Job Vacancy Announcement
2 – Retail Sales Person
1 year experience in direct selling of fish required. Knowledge on proper cleaning of fish is a must. Willing to work in a flexible schedule. Minimum salary.
Interested applicants may submit Their resume to
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FIESTA Resort & SPA SAIPAN A TanHoldings Company
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(1) Korean Sales & Marketing Representative
Qualification: 2 years previous work experience in sales & marketing preferably in a hotel. Must have fluency in English and Korean language. Ability to speak Japanese is a plus. Must possess strong communication skills both oral and written in Korean and English. Good organizational, planning, and customer service skills are required.
Assists in coordinating all local Korean sales efforts. Develops and maintains relationships with local Korean tour companies. Seek and provide information to help company determine their position in the marketplace. Willing to work a variable work schedule on occasion including holidays and /or weekends.

Applications may be obtained from Fiesta Resort's security office located on the South Wing. Closing date for applications to be submitted and considered is August 3, 2012.

Kanoa Resort
Saipan
P.O Box 500369 Saipan MP 96950
Tel # (670) 234-6601 Fax # (670) 234-8007

Position (1) GUEST SERVICES AGENT
Qualifications: Minimum of 2 years work experience in providing quality customer service , preferably in hotel operations. Guest services agent is responsible for providing guests fast , friendly and efficient service. Must have knowledge in Microsoft Office Applications and Fidelio system. Must have outstanding ability to perform several tasks at once. Must be able to work a flexible schedule including weekends , nights and holidays. Must have fluency in English and Chinese language.

Position (4) WAITRESS
Qualifications: High School graduate or equivalent with minimum of 2 years work experience preferably in hotel operations. Good customer service , communications and interpersonal skills are required. Ability to work a variable schedule on occasion , including early mornings , evenings and/ or weekends. Must have fluency in English and Chinese language.

Position (1) SALES ASSOCIATE
Qualifications: Minimum of 2 years work experience in cashiering and previous retail experience preferred. Able to perform duties with minimal supervision. Must be able to work irregular hours, such as shifts , holidays and weekends. Requires standing and frequent walking while on duty. Must have fluency in English and Chinese language.

Applications can be obtained from Kanoa Resort's security office located on the Hotel's Backside. To be considered , applications must be submitted not later than August 09, 2012. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

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8 Masseuse–Royal Thai Massage. 1 yr experience, green card or US citizen preferred pls call 234-2521.

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I have 10 yrs exp. in driving heavy-duty tractors & buses. Simple English, hard work, fast learner. Can do all kinds of job. Tel. 287-6686.

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Computer Desks, Computer Monitors, Sofa Loveseat, Dining Sets, Shelves, Kitchen Wares, Coffee Table, Night Stands, Fishing Gear, etc. Call Leslie 323-1217

WANTED TO BUY

We're buying '95 & Up used cars! Transaction only within 30 mins. Call 287-8688 or visit DPA CAR MART in San Antonio.

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2 Bedroom Apartment for Rent. For $200.00 / month. Koblerville, please call 288-0728.

WHATZIT Solution:
Men in dark suits

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Ocean View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nightime security. $600/mo. Pls. visit our website www.saipan-properties.com. Call 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Sunset View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nightime security. $550. Pls. visit our website www.saipan-properties.com. Call 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

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Fina Sisu Apt., 2-BR, 1-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Close to NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. $450-$550/mo. Pls. visit our website www.saipan-properties.com. Call 235-6527/8 or 285-1317 for info.

SANDY BEACH HOMES Energy efficient 3BR, 2BTH beachfront Chalan Kanoa. Security cams, back-up power/water, washer/dryer in unit, AC, solar water heater. Income eligibility req. apply. $695. 235-7263. www.sandybeachhomes.

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Marianas Management Corporation is currently seeking for qualified candidates to fill the following position
HVAC TECHNICIAN
Please apply in person at the J.C. Tenorio Enterprises, Inc. Human Resources Office Joeten Center, Susupe
Marianas Management Corporation Is an equal opportunity employer
(NO PHONE CALLS, PLEASE)

JWS AIR CONDITIONING AND REFRIGERATION, INC.
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
Full or Part-Time Positions Available
- **(1) ACCOUNTANT**
- **(1) AC SALES ENGINEER**
- **(1) AC & REF TECHNICIAN**

Minimum of 5 years work experience.
Apply personally at JWS AIR CONDITIONING AND REFRIGERATION, INC's office at unit 4, G/floor, Lim's Bldg., Cor. Beach and Msgr. Guerrero Road, San Jose Village, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands or email your resume to: jwssaipan@pticom.com

Garage Sale
DATE: SATURDAY, AUGUST 4TH
TIME: 7:00AM – 11:00AM
LOCATION: BEHIND SAN VICENTE POST OFFICE.
SIGNS WILL BE POSTED
TABLE W/4 CHAIRS, DESK, PRINTER, BANJO, WETSUIT, SEWING MACHINE, ENTERTAINMENT CENTER, BOOK CASE AND MORE.

Games shaken by badminton controversy

LONDON (AP)—The London Olympics were shaken Wednesday by the disqualification of eight badminton players for throwing matches in the women's doubles, sparking harsh criticism from organizers, players and fans.

The players from China, South Korea and Indonesia lost matches at the London Games to get easier rivals in the playoffs, the Badminton World Federation said.

"Sport is competitive," said IOC Vice President Craig Reedie, the former head of the international badminton federation. "If you lose the competitive element, then the whole thing becomes a nonsense."

China did not challenge the decision. South Korea and Indonesia appealed the disqualification, but the federation rejected the South Korean appeal and Indonesia withdrew its challenge.

The Chinese were accused of starting the problem by deliberately losing a game Tuesday night. This led to other teams behaving in a similar way to try to force an easier quarterfinal draw. At one stage both teams appeared to be trying to lose a game. The crowd caught on, and booed.

"Depressing. Who wants to sit through something like that?" said Sebastian Coe, chairman of the Olympic organizing committee.

The International Olympic Committee said it would allow badminton's ruling body to deal with the controversy.

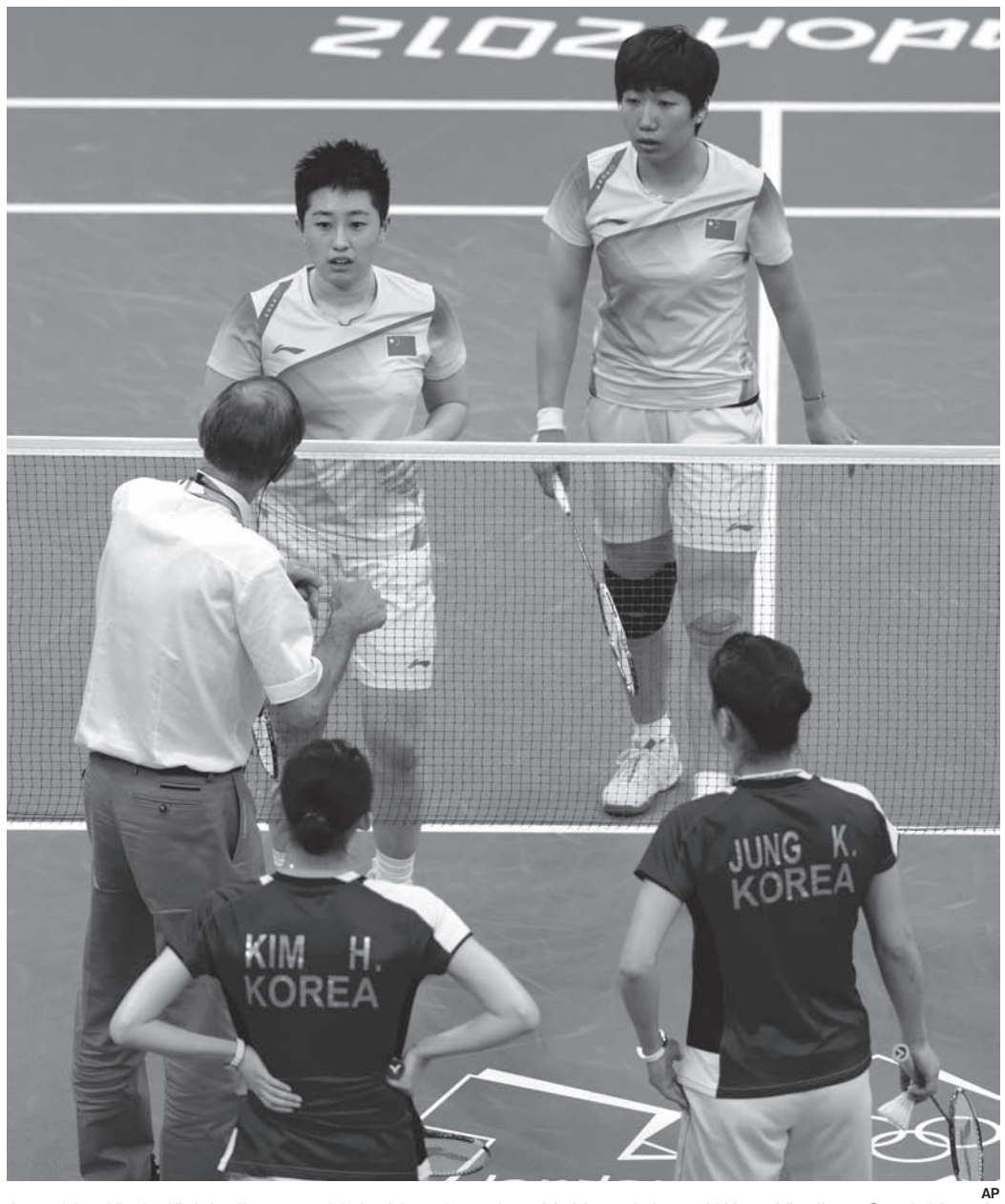
"We have full confidence in the federation to take any necessary steps," IOC spokesman Mark Adams said. "They have the experience to deal with such issues."

Teams blamed the introduction of a round-robin stage rather than a straight knockout tournament as the main cause of the problem. In the round-robin format, losing one game can lead to an easier matchup in the next round.

It was not all bad news for China, which took golds in diving, women's 200 butterfly and table-tennis on Wednesday. It also swept the gold and silver medals in the men's 77-kilogram weightlifting category. The weightlifting winner, Lu Xiaojun, combined his gold with setting snatch and total world records.

In evening swimming, the United States picked up two golds: Nathan Adrian won the men's 100 freestyle, and the U.S. women's team came first in the 4x200 freestyle relay.

Earlier, Rebecca Soni set a world record in the 200-meter breaststroke semifinals. Soni timed 2 minutes, 20.00 seconds, shaving 0.12 seconds off the previous mark set by Canadian Annamay Pierse at the 2009 world championships in Rome in a now-banned bodysuit.



AP

An unidentified official talks to world doubles champions Yu Yang, left, and Wang Xiaoli, as South Korea's Jung Kyung-eun, right, and Kim Ha-na, listen during their women's doubles badminton match at the 2012 Summer Olympics, Tuesday, July 31, 2012, in London. Wang and Yu and their South Korean opponents were booed loudly at the Olympics on Tuesday for appearing to try and lose their group match in Wembley Arena to earn an easier draw.

Daniel Gyurta of Hungary won the men's 200 breaststroke in world record time, and Jiao Liuyang won the 200 butterfly for China.

It was a good day for the host nation: British rowers Heather Stanning and Helen Glover won the country's first gold medal in women's pair, and Tour de France champion Bradley Wiggins earned Britain its second in the men's time trial a few hours later.

American Kristin Armstrong won her second straight Olympic time trial gold medal, covering the 29-kilometer (18-mile) course south of London in 37 minutes, 34.82 seconds. Judith Arndt of Germany took the silver and Russia's Olga Zabelinskaya picked up her second bronze of these games.

In Olympic basketball, Emilie Goubis scored 16 points and Isabelle Yacoubou added eight of her 14 in the fourth quarter to help France advance to the women's quarterfinals with a 64-60 victory over Canada.

In other morning rowing, Germany's powerful eight-man crew crossed the line first for its first win in the high-profile event since the country was unified in 1990. Canada took silver and Britain settled for the bronze.

And New Zealand's dominant men's pair, Hamish Bond and Eric Murray, qualified quickest from the semifinals at the Olympic rowing regatta at an overcast Eton Dorney, beating second-place Italy by nearly eight seconds.

The British crew of George Nash and William Satch won the other heat. But Bond and Murray have not lost in four years as a pair, and anything other than a Kiwi win in the final would be a big surprise.

Judo competitions yielded a gold for South Korea in the men's 90-kilogram category, and one for France in women's 70-kilogram category. North Korea took a gold medal in women's 69-kilogram weightlifting division.

In tennis, Venus Williams lost her third-round match at Wimbledon, but still has a shot at a fourth Olympic gold with sister Serena in doubles. They play in the quarterfinals Thursday.

Williams lost to Germany's Angelique Kerber 7-6 (5), 7-6 (5). She had looked sharp in the first two rounds of singles this week. But playing twice a day proved too much for Williams, who was diagnosed last year with an autoimmune disease that causes fatigue.

Roger Federer, American John Isner, Kei Nishikori of Japan and Maria Sharapova all advanced to the quarterfinals.

In men's gymnastics, Japan's Kohei Uchimura added Olympic gold to the world titles he's won the last three years, and it was never much of a contest. Uchimura's score put him well ahead of silver medalist Marcel Nguyen of Germany. Danell Leyva closed with two of the most spectacular routines of the day, on parallel bars and high bar, to land in third place.

Venezuela's Ruben Limardo won gold medal in men's individual epee, topping Norway's Bartosz Piasecki 15-10 in the title bout. Jung Jinsun of South Korea won the bronze.

A fatal accident near the Olympic Park cast a gloom over the evening events, as London's Metropolitan Police said an Olympics bus had hit and killed a 30-year-old bicyclist, temporarily stopping bus transportation in and out of the park.

Wednesday also brought some light moments.

London's portly mayor, Boris Johnson, got stuck on a zip wire at east London's Victoria Park after he lost momentum about three-quarters of the way across.

"Can you get me a rope? Get me a rope, OK?" he was heard shouting good-humoredly in a video posted to the ITV News website.

A happy crowd below snapped photos and laughed.

US *men's basketball set for familiar* Nigerian team

LONDON (AP)—While teams such as Nigeria want to test themselves against LeBron James and Kobe Bryant, they may have to settle for Kevin Love and Andre Iguodala.

U.S. Olympic men's basketball coach Mike Krzyzewski already knows what his superstars can do, and doesn't need to be reminded in the kind of blowouts his team routinely racks up during pool play.

What he needs to find out is what would happen if they weren't available, when the Americans were playing against teams that could beat them.

"You don't know who it's going to be that might help us win the gold medal," Krzyzewski said. "I mean, if you look at look at the gold-medal game against Spain in '08, Tayshaun Prince gave us eight points in an abbreviated role that were huge for us, because LeBron and Kobe had two quick fouls each in that game.

"And you know if you don't give these guys that level of experience over an extended period of time, then they may not be ready for those moments, so that's what we're trying to do."

With that in mind, Krzyzewski gave plenty of time to his subs on Tuesday in a 110-63 victory over Tunisia. Iguodala's 20 minutes were one more than James played, while Bryant got on the floor for just 9 minutes, half the time Love received while tying for the team lead with 16 points.

The bench even started the second half, Krzyzewski insisting that was his plan all along and not that he was angry with the first unit. He will probably do plenty of tinkering Thursday night against the Nigerians.

Even without playing their best basketball, the Americans are big and bad as advertised — romping through their first two games at the London Olympics by an average of 37 points.

But is that reason to be afraid of them?

Nigeria isn't.

"We will not be intimidated by those guys," Ike Diogu, a former top-10 NBA draft pick who has played 225 NBA games, said after Nigeria's 72-53 loss to Lithuania. "A lot of us went to school in the U.S. and have played against those guys. We have no reason to feel overwhelmed."

Nigeria guard Tony Skinn agrees.

"I mean, listen, man, I've been playing ball for a long time," said Skinn, who was part of George Mason's improbable Final Four run in 2006. "At some point in time, I played against those guys or seen those guys play. A lot of us, obviously we're Nigerians, but we play in the States and I don't think we have that mentality to just come in the game and just, you know, get our (butts) whooped."

Skinn and the Patriots beat Michigan State, North Carolina and Connecticut - all perennial powers who had been recent national champions. He wasn't in awe of those teams and he shows no fear of LeBron James, Kobe Bryant, or any other U.S. player, either.

"That's not what we're here for," he said. "We're here to compete. We're competitors, and I think that everybody on the team has that approach."

The Americans, who did not practice Wednesday, are approaching the Nigeria game as the next step in their quest for a second consecutive gold medal.

The contest is the second straight, and perhaps last, lesser opponent for the Americans. The schedule picks up again Saturday with a matchup against Lithuania before the final game of group play Monday against longtime rival Argentina.

The U.S. improved to 2-0 with Tuesday's rout of Tunisia, a team Nigeria beat by only four points in its opening game. The Americans led by just 13 points after a surprisingly close first half, then rang up 64 points in the second half to turn it into the easy victory that was expected.

"It's not easy to us," James said. "The final score may look that way, but we go out and we work hard, we work our habits and we try to get better, and I feel like we try to get better."

The Americans still have times where they struggle against a zone defense, settling for 3-pointers instead of attacking and using their athletic advantages, and got themselves out of position defensively a few times early in Tuesday's game. So there's plenty to work on.

They will do it Thursday against some familiar faces.

Besides the 6-foot-9 Diogu and Skinn, Nigeria also has forward Al-Farouq Aminu —the No. 8 pick in the 2010 draft—on its roster. Aminu was traded last year by the Los Angeles Clippers to New Orleans in the deal for the U.S. starting point guard Chris Paul.

As always, the Americans will try to use their swarming defensive pressure to force mistakes that lead to easy baskets. Nigeria will need much better offensive execution to stand a chance after recording a pathetic three assists and going 1 for 16 from 3-point range in its loss to Lithuania.

Phelps, Lochte set for final showdown

United States Michael Phelps, left, and Ryan Lochte start the men's 200-meter individual medley swimming semifinal at the Aquatics Centre in the Olympic Park during the 2012 Summer Olympics in London, Wednesday, Aug. 1, 2012. AP

LONDON (AP)—It's time for Round 2 of Michael Phelps vs. Ryan Lochte.

Their first showdown of the London Olympics went to Lochte in a runaway on the opening night of the swimming competition. This one figures to be a lot closer.

The American stars compete against each other for the last time in the 200-meter individual medley on Thursday night. Lochte qualified fastest in 1 minute, 56.13 seconds. Phelps was 98-hundredths of a second back in third.

"We love racing against each other," said Phelps, who plans to retire after the games. "Neither one of us likes to lose. I like to say we bring out the best in one another."

In between them again is Laszlo Cseh of Hungary. He's been the perennial also-ran in the last two Olympics, taking bronze behind Phelps at the 2004 Athens Games and silver four years ago in Beijing when Phelps won and Lochte was third.

Phelps could accomplish one more bit of history on Day 6 at the pool. A victory would make him the first male swimmer to win an individual event in three consecutive Olympics. Japanese star Kosuke Kitajima failed to defend either of his titles in the 100 or 200 breaststrokes, leaving Phelps a chance to accomplish the feat.

He missed on his first two tries at a threepeat, finishing fourth in the 400 IM (Lochte won) and second in the 200 butterfly.

Lochte has a busy schedule on what could be a big night for the U.S. He'll try to defend his title in the 200 backstroke final, with teammate Tyler Clary pressuring him as the fastest qualifier. Then a short time later, Lochte returns for the 200 IM final.

Leading off the night will be Rebecca Soni in the 200 breaststroke final. The American broke the world record in the semifinals with a time of 2:20.00 on Wednesday and will be the heavy favorite to win her second straight Olympic gold medal.

"It's been four years since I swam close to that fast so it's great to be back on top like that," she said. "I'm excited to have one more race. I felt good so all I have to do is feel about the same and hopefully I can go a little faster."

The night wraps up with a new champion being crowned in the women's 100 freestyle final, an all-out sprint to the wall featuring Ranomi Kromowidjojo of the Netherlands and American teenager Missy Franklin.

Kromowidjojo set an Olympic record of 53.05 seconds in the semifinals. Melanie Schlanger of Australia was second-quickest at 53.38 and Franklin was third in 53.59. Defending champion Britta Steffen of Germany failed to make the final.

The U.S. team continued its strong showing with victories by Nathan Adrian in the 100 free and the team of Franklin, Dana Vollmer, Shannon Vreeland and Allison Schmitt in the 4x200 free relay on Wednesday.

Adrian won a thrilling race that came down to the end. He got to the wall one-hundredth of a second ahead of James "The Missile" Magnussen of Australia, becoming the first American to win the 100 free since Matt Biondi at the 1988 Seoul Olympics.

Adrian hit the wall in 47.52 to Magnussen's 47.53. Brent Hayden of Canada took the bronze in 47.80, his country's first-ever medal in the event.

"This guy is an incredible closer. I knew that," Adrian said of Magnussen. "I knew it was going to take a lot more than what I'd ever done before to be able to hang with him those last 5 meters."

Official presses on Chinese doping allegations

LONDON (AP)—John Leonard is not backing down in his doping crusade.

Ye Shiwen has won two gold medals so far in the 2012 Olympic Games. (AFP)The executive director of the American Swim Coaches Association, credentialed as a technical adviser through FINA—the governing body of all international swimming, including the 2012 Olympic Games—sparked a firestorm earlier this week. Leonard declared doubts about the world record 400-meter individual medley swim by Chinese teenager Ye Shiwen. Leonard, an American, basically said the gold-medal swim had all the earmarks of a drug-enhanced performance.

Leonard called Ye's performance "disturbing," and took particular aim at her incredible closing freestyle leg of 58.68 seconds, which he labeled "impossible." Since then he has been buffeted for what some sectors of the international swimming community consider an unfair attack on Ye's credibility.

But Leonard is not going to be muzzled, and he explained why in an interview Wednesday at the Aquatics Centre with Yahoo! Sports.

"If people don't speak out when they see something suspicious, the public is going to think nonsensical splits were real," Leonard said. "Then doping is going to have free reign for anything we don't know about right now.

"It's an anomaly. Regardless where it comes from—take China's history completely out of it—an anomaly needs to be pointed out. And it's the only anomaly of the week."

The Florida-based Leonard has been around the sport for a long time—long enough to remember the doping scandals of the 1970s and '80s with the East Germans, and of the '90s with China. Americans also have had their share of positive drug tests over the years, not to mention whispers about others who swam dirty and were undetected.

Leonard said he doesn't want that dark history of the sport forgotten, for fear that it would have to be relived.

"There are a limited number of coaches left who have seen enough doped swimming to know what it looks like," he said.

Although some officials from USA Swimming have distanced themselves from Leonard's controversial comments, others in the American swimming community are glad he's speaking up.

"The swimmers themselves can't say anything," said one former Olympian who is in London. "They'll just look bitter. But something needs to be said."

Enter Leonard, unrepentant. He believes Ye's swim was so outrageous that she was counseled to back way off in the closing 50 meters of her 200 IM victory three nights later. She swam that lap of freestyle in 29.32 seconds—slower than the last 50 of a race that was twice as long.

"She backed off, obviously," he said. "She never took a hard stroke at any point in time [in the final 50]. She was told to do what it takes to win, nice job—but if you look at tape from the 400 IM, it's two totally different swims.

"When she was coming from behind [against American Elizabeth Beisel] she held an eight-beat kick all the way through the 400. That's extremely tiring. In the 200 she used a simple, soft, six-beat kick to get home."

Ye also swam a leg in China's sixth-place 4x200 freestyle relay Wednesday night. Her final 100 split in that was 59.97—also much slower than her closing leg of the more grueling 400 IM.

For other comparative numbers, Ye's 58.68-second last 100 was faster than all but one of the final 100s by the women in the 800 freestyle relay Wednesday. Only American anchor Allison Schmitt's 58.44 was faster.

"Some people are just biased," China's anti-doping chief Jiang Zhixue has said in response to allegations that Ye is doping. "We never questioned Michael Phelps when he bagged eight gold medals in Beijing."

"I also feel the same way," echoed Ye after her win in the 200 IM. "They are biased against me."

A current American college coach was asked for his opinion on Ye's 400 IM. He said he didn't want to accuse her of doping, but added, "It doesn't fit with anything I know about physiology."

Chinese swimmers have had a breakthrough meet, winning four gold medals and eight medals overall. Only the United States (eight gold, 18 overall) has won more.

And Ye Shewin has been China's shining star. But John Leonard isn't buying what he's seeing, and isn't backing down from saying so.

Gay's full attention on Bolt and Blake in 100

LONDON (AP)—Tyson Gay fell asleep in the stands while watching LeBron James & Co. play France, a moment captured in a picture by a teammate who posted it on Twitter, naturally.

Ha, ha. Very funny.

Gay is more concerned with more serious pursuits, such as trying to keep up with Olympic champion Usain Bolt and world champion Yohan Blake on the track. The Jamaican duo will have Gay's undivided attention when the 100-meter heats begin Saturday.

"I know what those guys bring to the table," Gay said. "But they know what I bring to the table."

He's the second-fastest man in history, thanks to a 9.69-second 100 (Bolt's record is 9.58). Gay won the 100, 200 and 4x100 relay at the 2007 world championships and was a silver medalist in the 100 two years later.

But for the first time in quite a while, Gay's mind actually is on his competitors and not his surgically repaired right hip.

Definitely a sign of progress.

Just five months ago, Gay's hip was so tender that he could only run on grass. Now he thinks he can be a factor against Bolt and Blake—and maybe even step on an Olympic podium for the first time. Four years ago, Gay was banged up heading into the Beijing Games and knocked out in the semifinals.

Given that he turns 30 next week, Gay's best chance might be in London.

"I have a lot of driving forces coming into these games," said Gay, who splits time between Dallas and Clermont, Fla. "I feel like I'm really, really focused mentally and physically to leave here with a medal."

Hip willing, of course. He believes 9.7 seconds is what it will take to walk away with a medal.

"I can only hope my body is able to go there as well," said Gay, who set the American mark in 2009. "But on this stage, it's all about medals. Regardless of if they run 9.8 seconds, 9.7 or 9.6, it's something I'm going to have to hope my body can do and go from there.

"But I'm feeling good. Right now, I'm just enjoying myself and trying to get used to the (athletes) village."

Gay is sharing a room with Trell Kimmons, Michael Tinsley and Jeremy Wariner, the U.S. track foursome who have dubbed themselves "The Crew." Some of his teammates attended an Olympic basketball game Sunday, where 400-meter runner Tony McQuay caught Gay napping - and showed the photographic evidence to the world via Twitter.

"He got me pretty good," Gay said.

Did he get revenge?

"I haven't yet," he said.

His plans might have to wait. He's got bigger things on his mind.

While Bolt and Blake have recently been training in seclusion, Gay held a workout open to the media last week.

"I didn't really have anything to hide," Gay said with a shrug. "We're going to run this weekend and that's that. I didn't mind the media coming out to training. I didn't mind letting them know I was pretty healthy."

Maybe he didn't mind letting his opponents know, too. Gay had surgery to fix his hip a year ago and has only raced in a handful of meets since his return to competition in June.

But he won meets in London and France last month as he showed flashes of recapturing the form that made him—not Bolt—the world's top sprinter five years ago.

Rangers win wild game against Angels

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP)—Elvis Andrus and the Texas Rangers were not going to let the Angels beat them again - even if they needed two improbable comebacks to win.

Andrus had a game-ending two-run single in the 10th inning, and the Rangers rallied from six runs down to beat Los Angeles 11-10 on Wednesday night.

"Our mentality was to win no matter what," said Andrus, who went 4 for 6 with three RBIs. "It was a great game for us."

The Rangers came into this four-game series leading the Angels by five games in the American League West. Los Angeles won the first two games of the series by a combined 21-10 and were on its way to three in a row.

Texas was down 7-1 in the fifth before rallying to force extra innings. The Angels scored three in the 10th inning to take a 10-7 lead before the wild finish to a game that lasted 4 hours, 1 minute.

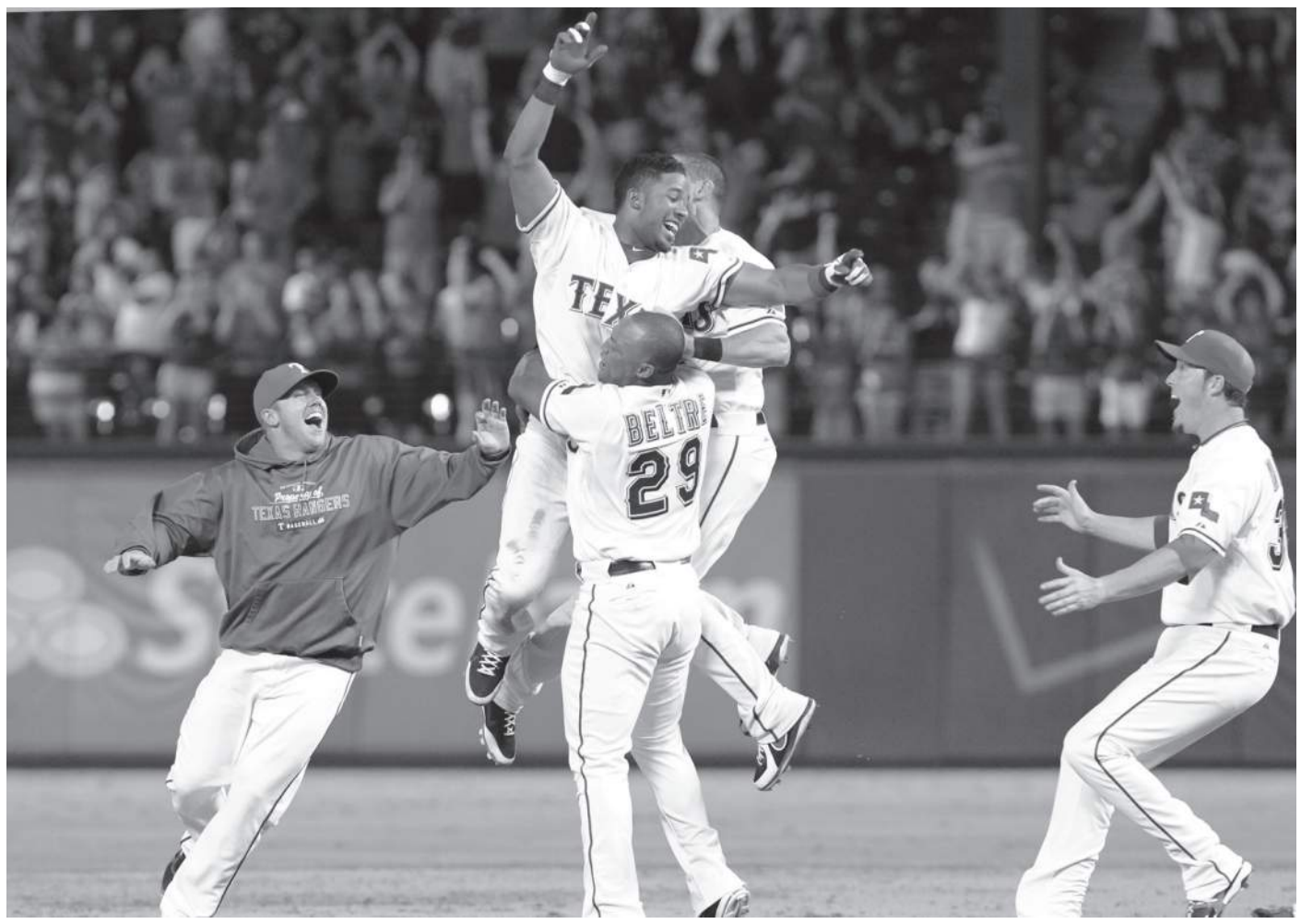
The Rangers extended their lead in the American League West to four games over the Angels and 4 1/2 over third-place Oakland.

"We kept battling, we kept grinding and we got blessed," Texas manager Ron Washington said.

Nelson Cruz homered, and Mitch Moreland singled off Jason Isringhausen (3-1) to bring the Rangers to 10-9. With the bases loaded, Andrus drove a single past third baseman Alberto Callaspo to set off a wild celebration near second base.

"It was a crazy game in Texas," Isringhausen said. "I've seen a lot of them. A six-run lead is not safe."

The comebacks seemed unlikely because the Texas offense struggled mightily during a 9-14 July. The Rangers scored 81 runs in the month, last in the American League.



AP

Texas Rangers shortstop Elvis Andrus (hands up) celebrates with teammates Robbie Ross, left, Adrian Beltre (29), Texas Rangers designated hitter Michael Young (behind Andrus) and Joe Nathan, right, after hitting a clutch two-run single that drove in the winning runs in the team's 11-10 victory in 10 innings over the Los Angeles Angels on Wednesday, Aug. 1, 2012, in Arlington, Texas.

Yankees 12, Orioles 3

In New York, Robinson Cano hit a grand slam in a seven-run third inning as New York sent Zach Britton to another shellacking at Yankee Stadium in a rout of Baltimore that stopped a four-game losing streak.

With Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor on hand and sitting with the Bleacher Creatures at the start, Derek Jeter had three hits and three RBIs on a rainy afternoon and Joba Chamberlain returned from elbow and ankle injuries that had sidelined him since June 5 last season. Phil Hughes (11-8) pitched homerless ball for only the fifth time this year.

Rays 4, Athletics 1

In Oakland, Alex Cobb shut down Oakland for seven innings and Carlos Pena homered to help Tampa Bay complete a successful nine-game road trip.

Pena, who drove in five runs in the series, hit an RBI double in the sixth inning and a solo homer in the eighth. Jeff Keppinger scored twice and Matt Joyce and Ryan Roberts also drove in runs for the Rays, who won three straight series on one trip for the fourth time in franchise history.

Brandon Inge homered for the A's, who followed up the best July in club history by losing the first game of August.

Cobb (5-8) allowed four hits and one walk, striking out six.

Jarrod Parker (7-5) Parker allowed three runs and eight hits in six innings.

Tigers 7, Red Sox 5

In Boston, Miguel Cabrera and Prince Fielder homered on consecutive pitches to cap a five-run fifth inning, and Detroit beat Boston to avoid a three-game sweep.

The Red Sox had a four-game winning streak halted.

Tigers starter Rick Porcello (8-6) pitched 5 2-3 innings, giving up eight hits, for the win.

Colorado's Aaron Cook (2-5) was hit hard for the second straight start, allowing six runs in 4 2-3 innings.

White Sox 3, Twins 2

In Minneapolis, Jake Peavy struck out eight batters over eight smooth innings and Alejandro De Aza gave Chicago the lead in the eighth with an infield single off Scott Diamond's leg as Chicago beat Minnesota.

Peavy (9-7) allowed five hits and walked two. One of the runs he gave up was unearned.

Danny Valencia homered in the second, but Peavy toughened up after that and had trouble in only two more innings.

Diamond (9-5) was coming off a three-hit shutout, his first career complete game, in his last start.

Mariners 5, Blue Jays 3

In Seattle, John Jaso hit the go-ahead single in the sixth inning, leading Seattle over Toronto and to its seventh straight win.

Mariners starter Blake Beavan (7-6) gave up seven hits over 7-2/3 innings. He is undefeated (4-0) since being recalled from the minors on July 17.

Toronto starter Carlos Villanueva (6-1) threw six innings, allowing four earned runs.

Royals 5, Indians 2

In Kansas City, Luis Mendoza pitched into the eighth inning, guiding Kansas City past Cleveland.

Mendoza (5-7) limited the Indians to two runs and went 7 1-3 innings to pick up the victory.

Lorenzo Cain and Jarrod Dyson stroked two hits each and drove in a run for the Royals, who won consecutive games for the first time since June.

Cleveland rookie Zach McAllister (4-3) gave up five runs in six innings.

Diamondbacks 4, Dodgers 2

In Los Angeles, Patrick Corbin allowed just two hit over six innings following his promotion from the minor leagues Wednesday as the Arizona Diamondbacks got home runs from Miguel Montero and newcomer Chris Johnson in a 4-0 victory that completed a three-game sweep of the Los Angeles Dodgers.

Montero had an RBI single in the second against rookie Stephen Fife (0-1) and made it 4-0 in the eighth with a two-run shot off Randy Choate. The Diamondbacks outscored Los Angeles 19-4 in their first three-game sweep at Chavez Ravine since August 2007.

Corbin (3-4) struck out five in his sixth major league start. The Dodgers' only hits were a two-out single by Matt Kemp in the first inning and a two-out single by Fife in the second.

Phillies 3, Nationals 2

In Washington, Jimmy Rollins hit two solo homers as Philadelphia edged Washington.

Rollins and Nate Schierholtz — in his Phillies debut — homered on successive pitches in the fifth inning against Edwin Jackson (6-7) to give Philadelphia a 3-2 lead.

Philadelphia starter Vance Worley (6-6) went seven innings and did not allow an earned run.

Jonathan Papelbon pitched the ninth for his 23rd save in 26 tries.

Reds 6, Padres 4

In Cincinnati, Ryan Ludwick homered and drove in four runs for the second consecutive game, as Cincinnati kept rolling along with a win over San Diego.

Ludwick drove in the go-ahead run twice to lead the Reds to their 19th victory in 22 games.

Despite playing without Joey Votto and Brandon Phillips, the Reds remained three games ahead of second-place Pittsburgh in the NL Central. The Pirates open a three-game series in Cincinnati on Friday.

Bronson Arroyo (7-6) pitched six innings to earn his third straight win.

Padres starter Kip Wells (2-4) allowed five runs in 4 1-3 innings.

Marlins 4, Braves 2

In Atlanta, Miami broke out for three runs in the first inning, ending Atlanta's seven-game winning streak.

against Ben Sheets after scoring just three total in two losses to Atlanta, and the Marlins ended the Braves' seven-game winning streak.

Carlos Lee, Greg Dobbs and Bryan Petersen had consecutive run-scoring singles in the first for the Marlins.

Miami's Carlos Zambrano (6-9), in his second relief appearance since being shifted to the bullpen, gave up one run in 1 2-3 innings to take the win.

Braves starter Ben Sheets (3-1) gave up 11 hits in 6 2-3 innings.

Pirates 8, Cubs 4

In Chicago, Michael McKenry and Starling Marte homered to back a strong start by Jeff Karstens in Pittsburgh's victory over Chicago.

Garrett Jones added two hits and drove in three runs after entering in the eighth as a pinch-hitter. Andrew McCutchen chipped in with two hits and scored three times, and the Pirates pulled away late.

Clinging to a 2-1 lead, Pittsburgh started a five-run eighth with seven straight hits against Shawn Camp.

Karstens (4-2) allowed three hits and one run over five innings. He settled down after Starlin Castro's solo homer in the first and retired 10 of his final 11 batters.

Brewers 13, Astros 4

In Milwaukee, Ryan Braun hit his National League-leading 29th homer as Milwaukee connected four times to finish a three-game sweep of sloppy Houston.

Rickie Weeks and Cesar Izturis each homered in the fifth inning. Jonathan Lucroy added a two-run shot in the seventh, helping rookie Mike Fiers (5-4) win consecutive starts for the first time this season. The right-hander allowed two earned runs in six innings.

Milwaukee, which has won three straight after a 1-9 stretch, benefited from four Houston errors—three within the first six Brewers batters. The Astros lost for the 28th time in 31 games.

Brett Wallace went deep twice for Houston, his first multihomer game.

Cardinals 9, Rockies 6

In Denver, Matt Holliday homered twice and drove in five runs and the St. Louis Cardinals beat the Colorado Rockies 9-6 on a rain-soaked Wednesday night.

Yadier Molina had three hits and Jake Westbrook pitched six innings to get the win.

Josh Rutledge homered and Tyler Colvin had two triples among his three hits for the Rockies, who have lost five straight and seven in a row at home.

The game was delayed by rain for 1 hour, 26 minutes after the seventh inning.

Holliday had his second straight big night at the plate against his former team. On Monday he homered and drove in four runs and he continued his assault Tuesday with the 17th multihomer game of his career and the first this season.

Mets 2, Giants 1

In San Francisco, Jonathon Niese scattered three hits over seven innings and Ruben Tejada homered for the first time in almost two years and singled twice, leading the New York Mets past the San Francisco Giants 2-1 on Wednesday night.

All San Francisco could squeeze out of Niese (8-5) was a two-out homer by Buster Posey in the sixth, the All-Star catcher's 14th long ball this season. Niese struck out five and walked two to outlast ace Matt Cain (10-4) and spoil Hunter Pence's debut in San Francisco.

The new Giants right fielder finished 0 for 4 with two strikeouts.

Cain gave up seven hits and three walks and never looked in rhythm. He struck out five in five innings to match his shortest start of the season.

Triple A Youth Baseball League kicks off today

BY WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
walter_sutherland@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Triple A Baseball League starts today at 5pm at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

The league features youth players ages 15 to 18 and is being organized by the Saipan Major League Baseball Association, in conjunction with the Division of Youth Services.

The first matchup will take place after the opening ceremony or at 6pm. Five teams make up the field.

Games are tentatively scheduled on Friday and Saturday evenings for the first couple of weeks. Then games will be held on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays once the SML adult season concludes. The season is expected to run through the end of October or early November this year.

Family and friends of aspiring players are invited to come out and witness the action.

Guam Masters Games

In related baseball news, interested Masters-level male baseball players, and female softball players who want to compete in the 1st Annual Guam Masters Games are requested to attend a 5pm organizational meeting on Wednesday, Aug. 8, at the Minachom Atdao pavilion across the "Tan Ko" pitch.

The competition will be held at the Leo Palace Resort in Guam from Sep. 9 to Sept.16.

Male players ages 40 and above are eligible to participate, while female players must be at least 30.

Entrance fee for men's team is $1,100 and $500 for women's. Each team is guaranteed to play at least five games.

The competitions are organized by the Guam Masters Federation, Tropical Productions, Inc. and Leo Palace Resort, which will be offering special room rates for participants.

For more information about the Saipan representative squads, contact Rogolifoi at 788-3966. For more information about the event email justin.bennett@guamstrikezone.com.

Emon Lodge/MDX caging eyes Aug. 12 opening

The Emon Lodge 179/ MDX Sports Association Basketball B League is hoping to open shop on Aug. 12 at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

So far five teams have already confirmed their entry to the league. The list includes Island Servitech Auto Paint Shop, Armatech, Fong's Bakery, Archers, and the Sonics. League officials are looking for three more teams and will open a separate competition for U19.

Entrance fee is only $350 and each team are allowed to have only 12 players on their roster. Games will be played every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday.

Meanwhile, representatives of interested teams are requested to attend a meeting tomorrow at 5:30pm at the pavilion at the back of the Ada gym.

For more information, contact Ric Alejandro at 789-2074 or Rex Yabut at 989-1187. ***(PR)***

BREWERS

From Page 32

around the base path for an early run in the first inning, but the Brewers tied it up in the second frame off three hits. Oliver Secharmedal drove in Byron Kaipat.

The Aces countered with two runs in the top of the third inning, built off an error and an RBI single from Ben Taisacan, while pitcher Juan Iguel kept the Brewers at bay through the middle innings.

The Aces upped the lead to three, 4-1, thanks to another RBI base rip from Taisacan in the sixth inning. However, Brewers' ace pitcher Vince Cepeda escaped the side with ducks on the pond and teammate Ton Guerrero got one run back in the seventh on a nice squeeze play to score Clifton Silil.

Then the Aces' defense blinked in the eighth inning, allowing the Brewers to surge ahead, 5-3, off two hits, and some costly blunders late in the game. The Brewers trio, Roy Celis, Mike Pangelinan, and Secharmedal all came in off errors.

Both hurlers made it through all nine innings, but Cepeda bagged the win, giving up one earned run off five hits, eight walks, and eight strikeouts.

Brewers 14, Yankees 4

The Brewers' Byron Kaipat singled home Ton Guerrero to break the ice in the opening frame and they pounded four hits in the second inning to move ahead, 4-0. Darren Pua bagged an RBI single and Roy Celis bashed a two-RBI base rip in the uprise.

The Yankees responded with four runs in the bottom portion to briefly tie the match, however they were unable to produce any offense for the remainder of the contest.

After mustering four initial runs off Yankees' starter Bobby Castro in the first two innings, the Brewers went through three other pitchers en route to an early decision.

They took the lead in the fourth frame, thanks to a fake tag violation that granted Guerrero free passage to the plate. The advantaged went up to three, 7-4, in the fifth inning after Brewers loaded the bases right away and cashed in runs off an error, an RBI walk ,and a sacrifice fly from Pua.

Brewers' pitcher Vince Cepeda shifted into cruise control after the shaky second inning and his teammates put the run-rule into effect with a six-run gash in the sixth inning off five hits and some errors. Pangelinan belted a two-RBI double, Tom Camacho bagged an RBI single, and Pua capped the rally with a two-RBI triple.

Cepeda left the Yankes with runners on the corner in the final stand. He gave up one earned run off six hits, seven walks ,and six strikeouts through seven innings. The Yankees stranded nine runners on base.

Guerrero batted 3-for-4 with an RBI, four runs and a base on balls for the Brewers, while Pua went 2-for-4 with four RBIs.

BLUE HAUS

From Page 32

The match was even after the third period, 47-all, and Mawati even took the lead in the opening minutes of the fourth, 48-47, off Arjay Nonato's split free throw. Neither team managed to make a field goal in the first two and a half minutes of the final canto before Blue Haus ended the slump and outgunned Mawati in the next six minutes, 12-2, for a 59-50 lead. Five different players teamed up in Blue Haus' fourth-quarter push, while Mawati's lone field goal came from Dela Cruz's follow-up shot midway in that canto.

By the time the game reached its final two minutes, Blue Haus had the win already in the bag, as Bernard Aquino went 2-for-2 from the foul line for their double-digit lead, 61-51.

Blue Haus managed to pull away from Mawati in the fourth after getting several interceptions and converting the latter's errors into fastbreak plays. Joseph Galulu walked away with two easy layups, while Sam Fernandez, Melvin Capalad, and Sheen Metran had one each.

Galulu top-scored for Blue Haus with his 16 markers, drilling 10 of them in the opening quarter, which started late as organizers scrambled to drain the court after it rained almost the whole day last Wednesday.

The delayed Blue Haus-Mawati tiff was only the third game played in the second edition of the DLX B league this year as Monday's two matches were rainedout.

With Galulu waxing hot early, Mawati took a 24-10 lead, and remained on top at the break, 34-25, as Aquino also started hitting his marks in the second canto.

Then at the beginning of the second half, Mawati managed to recover and tied the game, 47-all. Nonato, Dela Cruz, Lawrence Rollon, and Jerome Reyes joined forces in the third-quarter comeback, as all four scored at least four points each, while Resty Corotan added three on an and-1 play.

Blue Haus lost the lead in the third when only Capalad hit more than one field goal and only two other players—Fernandez and Metran—lit up the scoreboard in the penultimate canto.

However, Blue Haus regrouped in the fourth to save the win, while Mawati ran out of steam after playing catch up in the first three quarters.

Looban 64, Yuichiro/Docomo 58

In the second game, Robert Guiang and Kevin De Leon delivered in the homestretch to lift Looban to a six-point win over Yuichiro/Docomo.

Guiang and De Leon teamed up in all but two of Looban's 15 points in the fourth quarter to thwart Yuichiro/Docomo's repeated comeback bids. The youth De Leon scored 5 of Looban's first 7 points to keep their distance, while the veteran Guiang had 6 of their last 8, including a pair of crucial free throws that sealed their win.

Looban led from start to finish with Juluis Tabamo helping out Guiang and De Leon on offense. However, Yuichiro/Docomo behind the hot shooting on Jun Abedes remained afloat and was only behind by 4 points at the end of the third, 45-49.

Abedes continued to burn the hoops in the futile attempt to put Yuichiro/Docomo in the lead, adding 8 more markers. However, his efforts fell short to the combined 13 markers of De Leon and Guiang, who finished their first game with 16 points each. Abedes had a game-high 27 points, but he was the lone double figure scorer for Yuichiro/Docomo, as Erwin Gomez nailed only 9.

First Game

Blue Haus 63 – Galulu 16, Aquino 11, Metran 11, Capalad 10, Fernandez 8, Itaas 2, Olivos 2.

Mawati 51 – Rollon 14, Dela Cruz 12, Reyes 9, Nonato 8, Corotan 6, Ibanez 2.

Scoring by quarters: 24-12, 34-25, 47-47, 63-51.

Second Game

Looban 64 – De Leon 16, Guiang 16, Tabamo 14, Montano 6, Mateo 6, Olfindo 4.

Yuichiro/Docomo 58 – Abedes 27, Gomez 9, Palacios 7, Sanciangco 4, Achas 3, Lizardo 2, Enriquez 2, Tengco 2.

Scoring by quarters: 16-11, 37-31, 49-45, 64-58.

ROGOLIFOI

From Page 32

Rogolifoi coached the Commonwealth sluggers, who beat rival Guam, 8-4, in the gold medal game in the Pacific Games last year. He steered the short-handed CNMI crew to a 3-2 record in the elimination round and after his squad almost missed the playoffs, Rogolifoi helped the Commonwealth bets sweep their last three games to win their first gold medal in the Games' baseball competition. Rogolifoi and company defeated host New Caledonia in the first round of the playoffs and Palau in the semis before downing Guam in the finale.

Besides his successful coaching chores in the Pacific Games, Rogolifoi also mentored local teams in both baseball and Little League.

Igitol was the steady force behind the CNMI team's fundraising efforts for the Pacific Games trip. She was with the team from Day 1 of the preparation for the New Caledonia competition and pulled all the strings to make the CNMI's participation to the quadrennial tournament possible.

Igitol also helped organized local tournaments and was elected to the Executive Committee of the Basketball Confederation of Oceania last year, making her the first female to join the prestigious group.

Team of the Year nominee

NMASA is also nominating a team in the Pacific Sports Award for the first time and the hands-down choice is the CNMI Baseball Team.

The Pacific Games champion were composed of ace pitcher Joshua Jones, Ian Rogolifoi, Juan Maratita, Eric Tenorio, Ian Rogolifoi, Keoni Lizama, Mike Iguel, Vince Cepeda, Elton Santos, Jesus Iguel, Tyrone Omar, Franco Flores, Thomas Joab, Jerome Delos Santos, Byron Kaipat, Manny Sablan, and Craig Sanchez.

The Commonwealth sluggers managed to reign supreme in the Pacific Games despite having second thoughts in traveling to New Caledonia due to funding problems.

The CNMI started its campaign in the Pacific Games with a 1-0 win over dethroned champion Palau before dropping its next two games against Guam, 5-6, and New Caledonia, 2-3. The Commonwealth bets then won over American Samoa and Fiji to save a playoffs spot. In the playoffs, the CNMI had to play two games in one day and won over New Caledonia, 11-5, and against Palau, 8-0, to set a final duel versus Guam.

The CNMI went on to make it two in a row against its neighbor after nailing an 8-4 triumph. The Commonwealth also defeated Guam in the 2006 Micronesian Games, 3-2.

Meanwhile, winners in the Pacific Sports Awards will be announced this October at the Pacific Games Council's general membership meeting in Wallis and Futuna. The Pacific Sports Awards is Pacific Games Council's annual recognition ceremony for athletes, teams, and officials from the 22 member-Pacific Games Associations.

GODFATHER'S

From Page 32

Though Godfather's is behind the perfect Wild Bill's, the former enjoys the lead in the goals scored so far with its 86 against the latter's 59.

Go Green upped its goals total in seven games to 16, but it remained at the bottom of the team standings with its 1-0-6 slate. Go Green drew three goals from Don Cabrera, two from Timothy Tawanpiy, and one from Angelo Guevarra.

WOMEN'S
IT&E Awesome 3, Mellow Yellow 2

IT&E won the battle of the bottom two squads in the six-team women's league.

The diminutive Negahr Rastguiy converted a pair of goals in the first half to give IT&E Awesome a 2-0 cushion at the break, while Jayda Mendoza made the lone goal in the second half.

Mellow Yellow got its two goals in the second half from Britanny Wally and Mary Kay Alforos, but it remained winless in eigth games and so far has scored only 12 goals.

IT&E Awesome improved to a 2-1-5 record and has overtaken Mellow Yellow in the race for most goals scored with the former's 13.

BOYS U14
IT&E 6, Astig Futsal 4

IT&E continued its streak against the IP&E-sponsored Astig Futsal.

IT&E and Astig drew their first two games before the former won the next three, including last Wednesday's match.

John Taisacan led IT&E's victory, firing four goals, while Dakota Hall added two. Jeff Palacios scored all the four goals for Astig Futsal.

IT&E now has a 3-0-2 card and 25 goals, while Astig fell to a 0-2-5 card and has made 13 goals so far.

BOYS U18
Astig Futsal 11, IT&E 3

Astig Futsal foiled an IT&E sweep after winning their U18 showdown.

After taking a 4-1 halftime lead, Astig Futsal turned on the heat in the second half, sizzling for seven goals. Six different players scored for Astig Futsal in the final 25 minutes of play with Billy Hinson tallying two and Jeff Palacios, Jack Unsa, Konkoed, Marc Mora, and Woo Seok Choi adding one each. Konkoed also nailed two in the first half, helping Astig Futsal keep its spotless record (5-0-0)

Scott Kim, Enrico Del Rosaio, and Frank Jeon made it to the scoreboard for IT&E, which dropped to a 3-0-2 slate.

Commonwealth Football League Fun Run

PHOTOS By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND

▲ Brad Ruszala finishes last Saturday's Commonwealth Football League Fun Run with his son, Keoni.

▲ Jeanne Rayphand, right, surges past John Blanco down the home-stretch.

▲ Jeff Boyer checks his time as he crosses the finish line.

▲ Jude Loste goes for a strong second place finish.

▲ Kathy Ruszala trots to the finish line.

▲ Reylynn Sapong, left, is congratulated by Glen Hunter at the end of the course.

▲ Reina Camacho, left, takes a high-five from Chris Kapileo after finishing the course.

▲ Robin Sapong takes a cup of water from volunteers at the turn-around point.

▲ William Hunter gasps for air after crossing the finish line.

▲ Chris Kapileo takes a cup of water from the volunteers at the turnaround.

TSL SPORTS COMPLEX

Activity Schedule for August 3, 2012

2012 Summer Soccer Camp
4th Session
8:00 AM to 9:30 AM: U10 • **10:00 AM to 11:30 AM:** U8

SAIPAN SOCCER SCHOOL

2012 Summer Futsal League

6:30 PM:	U18 Boys' Division	Mean Machine vs. Thundercats
7:30 PM:	Men's Division	Shirley's vs. Wild Bill's
8:30 PM:	Women's Division	Wild Bill's vs. Baked Girls

Games shaken by badminton controversy
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Sports

Phelps, Lochte set for final showdown
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Rogolifoi, Igitol vie for honors in Pacific Awards

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

From left, Tony Rogolifoi, Rose Igitol, and their son, Ian, pose for a group photo after the 2011 NMASA Annual Sports Banquet at the Kanoa Resort in February this year. Rogolifoi and Igitiol are nominated in the Pacific Sports Awards.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Baseball's Tony Rogolifoi and Rose Igitol are nominated for the top officials honors in the 4th annual Pacific Sports Awards.

Rogolifoi is Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association's nominee for the Outstanding Coach of the Year plum, while his better half is nominated for the Outstanding Sports Administrator of the Year award. The husband and wife tandem earned nominations for the prestigious awards for their roles in the CNMI's successful campaign in the 2011 Pacific Games in New Caledonia.

See ROGOLIFOI on Page 30

Blue Haus outlasts Mawati in DLX caging

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The 2012 DLX/Gualo Rai Invitational Basketball League resumed last Wednesday night at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court with Blue Haus posting a 63-51 win over Mawati.

Blue Haus turned the close game into a 12-point victory after holding Mawati to one field goal and four points in the fourth quarter.

See BLUE HAUS on Page 30

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Blue Haus' Bernard Aquino, left, and Sheen Metran, right, double team Mawati's Daniel Dela Cruz during the fourth quarter of their game in the DLX caging last Wednesday at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

Brewers clinch SML pennant crown

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

The Tan Holdings Brewers claimed the pennant in the 2012 Saipan Major League Baseball Association after sweeping their last two games in the regular season at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

The Brewers defeated the Aces, 5-4, last Tuesday, and also prevailed over the Saipan Stevedore Company Northern Yankees last week, 14-4, to finish the double-round robin elimination with a 10-2 record. The Yankees dropped to second with their 9-3 mark, followed by the Aces (8-4), and the defending champion St. Michael's Medical Response Angels (7-5). The Top 4 teams also gained playoff berths, while the Rep. Sylvester Masters (1-11), the Fielders (5-6) and D-9ers (1-10) were already eliminated.

WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND

The Tan Holdings Brewers' Ton Guerrero eyes an incoming pitch in this photo taken in an earlier SML game at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

With the Brewers already taking the pennant champion, league officials declared last night's match between the IP&E Shell Fielders (5-6) and the Rep. Ray Yumul D-9ers (1-10) as the final game of the regular season.

Then on Monday, the playoffs will start with the Brewers and the Angels meeting in Game 1 of their best-of-three semifinals duel at 6:30pm. On Tuesday, the Yankees will square off against the Aces in their separate semis showdown. Winners of the Final Four pairings will slug it out in the best-of-five championship series.

Tan Holdings Brewers 5, Aces 4

The Aces' Jesus Iguel led off the game with a hit and snuck

See BREWERS on Page 30

Godfather's demolishes Go Green Team

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Godfather's notched its sixth win in seven games after whipping Go Green Team, 11-5, in the men's division of the 2012 Saipan Soccer School Summer Futsal League last Wednesday night at the TSL Sports Complex in Gualo Rai.

Chris Nelson and Ropati Tonuu were unstoppable for Godfather's, scoring five and four goals, respectively. Dale Roberts and Otsuka Masatoshi drained the two other goals for Godfather's, which now has a 6-0-1 win-draw-loss record to keep pace with the unbeaten Wild Bill's (5-0-0).

See GODFATHER'S on Page 30

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

A Godfather's strikers saves the ball from the sideline during their game against Shirley's Coffee Shop in the men's division of the SSS futsal league late last month at the TSL Sports Complex. Godfather's dueled Go Green last Wednesday and won, 11-5.